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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON DC,
February 10, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ADRIAN SMITH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

FOSTERING A PROSPEROUS AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, during the last 5 months of President Biden's term, he imposed more than 1,500 regulations on the American people. Our policies should be focused on fostering economic growth for small businesses, not weighing them down with more regulations.

This week, the House will vote on the Midnight Rules Relief Act. This legis-

lation gives Congress the ability to overturn multiple regulations in one action.

Immediately after President Trump was sworn in, he got to work. He got to work improving government efficiency, and now it is time for my colleagues in the House and in the Senate to follow suit so that the American people can once again prosper.

PROTECTING LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, over the last 4 years, our Nation saw millions of illegal aliens stream across our borders. In recent weeks, my colleagues and I in the House passed legislation to crack down on criminal aliens to better protect women and girls and to fight back against the fentanyl crisis.

Today, it is time to protect the brave law enforcement officers working to clean up our disastrous borders. H.R. 35, the Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act, creates new criminal offenses for those who flee law enforcement at our borders and includes mandatory prison time for chases that cause the loss of human life.

This is commonsense legislation that will save the lives of our law enforcement officers and make the streets safe for all Americans. I look forward to supporting its passage here in the House and the positive impact that this legislation will have on all of America.

HONORING SHATZER FRUIT MARKET AND ORCHARDS

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Shatzer Fruit Market and Orchards in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, for their exceptional showing at the 2025 Pennsylvania Farm Show. Owned by fourth-generation growers Dwight and Lisa Mickey, the Shatzer Fruit Market won two best-of-class awards, in addition to more than three dozen first-place awards. Over the years, Shatzer's has won over 3,000 ribbons and prizes for its fruit entries.

Having personally visited Shatzer Fruit Market and Orchards, I have seen their enduring commitment to this industry and why they are a favored stop in Franklin County for delicious peaches and apples.

On behalf of everyone in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Shatzer Fruit Market and Orchards on their impressive showing at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, and I look forward to seeing their continued success in the orchards and in the marketplace.

TARIFFS AND ALLIES OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, at the end of the first week of President Trump's Presidency, he announced with great fanfare that he was imposing 25 percent tariffs on our neighbors, Canada to the north and Mexico to the south. The Wall Street Journal, hardly a Democratic newspaper, described this effort as the dumbest trade war ever.

It was dumb because, number one, it violated the trade agreement that President Trump himself signed into law in 2020, the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Again, tariffs like that are completely violative of that agreement.

Number two, Canada and Mexico made it crystal clear that they would retaliate with tariffs of their own aimed at U.S. businesses and sectors of all sorts.

It is mostly dumb because it is going to raise prices for Americans, which I think most of us in this Chamber who were on the ballot last November can still remember that that was the number one issue that Americans had.

It is going to raise prices not just because I am saying it. The American

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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Farm Bureau, which represents a cross-section of American food producers all across the country, warned the minute that proposal came out that it was going to raise the cost of fertilizer input costs that was going to end up in the grocery stores in terms of higher prices.

American Home Builders, hardly a Democratic group, warned that those tariffs were going to raise the costs of building materials, whether it was wood or metal materials. That is going to translate into higher prices for new homes, the last thing we need in the middle of a housing crisis.

Predictably, February 1, the first day the markets were open, the markets tanked in response to this proposal. Within hours, the President engaged in a face-saving measure to delay those tariffs for 30 days. They are still out there and pending. We will see what happens.

Yesterday, right before the Super Bowl, the President came out with another proposal of a 25 percent tariff on steel and aluminum indiscriminately across the globe to any and all countries who do business with the United States of America.

I want to talk about one Nation in particular, Australia. I co-chair the Friends of Australia Caucus. Today, the U.S. economy has a trade surplus with Australia. We export more into Australia than they export back to us. They have been a signatory with a free trade agreement with no tariffs going back to 2002.

Again, as Secretary of Defense Hegseth stated yesterday at the Pentagon, when he met with the Australia Deputy Prime Minister, our alliance between our two countries, going back to World War I, is probably the most deep and strong of any other Nation in the world.

At that meeting he was also there to receive word from the Australian Government that they are making the first payment on AUKUS, the Australia, U.K., and U.S. security agreement.

Australia is putting \$500 million into the U.S. industrial base to help our shipbuilding sector build more submarines, which is part of the AUKUS deal. It is a total of \$3 billion. Again, the first check was delivered on Friday by the Australian Government for \$500 million.

Two days later, what do we see? We see a 25 percent tariff on steel and aluminum products coming from Australia into the U.S. at a time when we have a surplus with Australia.

Australia is a key strategic ally for our country. They are positioned in the Indo-Pacific at a place where, again, tensions are sky-high. We need their input and their help in terms of making sure that we are going to rebalance that security environment and protect the rule of law in the Indo-Pacific.

Instead, what we are seeing is a completely needless insult to the people of Australia by raising tariffs on Australian products coming into this coun-

try at the same time we are working with them and they are buying three nuclear submarines, cash on the barrel-head, full price, no gimme, no give-away.

Again, by all the measurements that President Trump talks about trade issues and that we are being ripped off by other countries, in this case every one of those arguments fails. The Friends of Australia Caucus is a strong bipartisan caucus that actually understands the importance of Australia.

Again, we will do everything we can to make sure that this administration changes course and treats our friends and our allies with the respect that they deserve in terms of the contributions that they are making to their national security in a critical part of the world and our national security.

CONGRATULATING PHILADELPHIA EAGLE COOPER DEJEAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, from 712 to 205 to the Super Bowl, former Iowa Hawkeye and current Philadelphia Eagle Cooper DeJean is now a world champion.

The rookie quarterback helped lead the Eagles to their second Super Bowl victory, returning his first professional career interception for a touchdown against the reigning champion Kansas City Chiefs.

If that wasn't special enough, it was also Coop's 22nd birthday. What a way to celebrate a birthday than with a first career interception to a touchdown and winning the Super Bowl.

Cooper, a proud native of Odebolt, Iowa, grew up wanting to be a University of Iowa Hawkeye player. He even wore shoes with the 712 area code during the biggest game of his life. During his time with the Hawkeyes, he earned All-American honors and was regarded as one of the Nation's best quarterbacks.

His NFL success comes as no surprise to those of us who watched him play in Iowa. With last night's performance, Cooper solidified his place as one of the greatest Hawkeyes ever, and he did it in his rookie season. All of Hawkeye Nation and Iowa are proud of Coop. He will always be a Hawkeye.

God bless and Go Hawks.

HONORING IOWA CITY VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER AND HEIDI KAUFMAN

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible work being done by Heidi Kaufman and the dedicated team at the Iowa City Veterans Administration Medical Center. Their innovative use of aromatherapy in the PACU, or post-anesthesia care unit, is transforming the recovery experience for our veterans.

Through their pioneering efforts, this team has introduced a noninvasive, natural solution to combat post-operative nausea and vomiting. In a re-

cent study, 12 out of 47 patients reported complete relief from nausea using only aromatherapy. Although that is a small amount, it is not pharmaceutical, it is nonaddictive, and the cost is extremely low.

This achievement is a testament to their compassion, skill, and commitment to improving patient care, and it can go far beyond the PACU. Heidi and her team have proven that sometimes the simplest solutions can make the most profound impact. Their work not only enhances the recovery process but also brings comfort and healing to those who have served our country.

We are deeply grateful for their dedication to our veterans and the innovative care they continue to provide. We thank Heidi for her work.

SPECIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE STATUS OF ELON MUSK

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I feel compelled to remark on the outrage of my colleagues and others over the special government employee status of Elon Musk from the executive branch and constant remarks that he is unelected and unaccountable.

Let me remind my colleagues and those voices, the vast majority of government employees that review and authorize grants, that disburse funds, and that, in fact, issue rules or laws are unelected and unaccountable to the voters.

RECOGNIZING THE 7TH ANNUAL DOMINICANS ON THE HILL DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the 7th Annual Dominicans on the Hill event which will be held tomorrow. It is a time for all participants to celebrate the contributions of Dominican Americans throughout the country.

In fact, we have today in the gallery the Honorable Ricardo de los Santos Polanco, who is the president of the Dominican Senate, and Alfredo Pacheco, who is the president of the house. They will be with us for the next couple of days, and I want to extend the courtesies of the House so that all of us can attend this wonderful event that is being held for the seventh year in a row.

PROTECTING DREAMERS, FAMILIES, AND FARMWORKERS

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Dreamers, farmworkers, and families. Much has been said about the immigration issues at the border. I think what has not been said is the fact that we all want to make sure that the border is more secure. There is no disagreement in that.

□ 1215

We can work together to make the border safer, safer for children, for families, for women, for grandparents and for the communities, the border

communities that many of our Members and colleagues represent. We should work together to make sure that the border is safer.

However, Mr. Speaker, there is a reality in the Nation, and that is that Dreamers are young people that are teachers and nurses. They are part of our communities. They own their homes. Many of them have their own businesses. Yet, they haven't been given the opportunity to be a full part of America.

Dreamers have been, on the average, in the United States for about 20 years. They have lived here. Many of them pay taxes. They haven't committed any crimes. They play by the rules. They stay within the parameters of the law. Yet, we have failed to allow them to be fully part of this American experience. We should work very hard to ensure that Dreamers are given that opportunity. In fact, 80 percent of Americans feel that Dreamers should be given that opportunity.

Farmworkers, Mr. Speaker, we all know many of them aren't going to work because they are afraid they are going to be deported. In fact, 40 percent of farmworkers are undocumented, and they are not showing up at the farms. That will show up at our cash register. That will show up at our dinner table.

Farmers are also a sector of the immigrant community that we should help. Prices will come down. They will be able to go to work, and we will get greater goods in our houses, in our grocery stores, and in our supermarkets.

Dreamers and farmers are an important part of the immigration equation that often are left out. You would think that the only part of the immigration debate is the border. We all agree that the border should be safer.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, families should be kept together. The average immigrant family has been here in the country for over 10 years. Families, if they are divided, or if a young boy or a young girl is taken away from his or her mother, that family will be weaker, and as such, our Nation will be weaker.

The equation is simple. Weak families make a weak nation. Separated families become weak families, and as such, make a weak nation.

Dreamers, farmworkers, and keeping families together are an important and central part of the immigration debate, which is a very broad debate that includes other topics.

We all agree that the border should be safer. How is it that we cannot agree and come to a consensus that Dreamers and farmworkers are important and that families must be kept together?

RECOGNIZING THE ANNIVERSARY OF SCOUTING AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize

the 115th anniversary of Scouting America.

On February 8, 1910, Chicago businessman William D. Boyce, who grew up in western Pennsylvania, incorporated the Boy Scouts of America, now known today also as Scouting America.

For more than a century, Scouting has built character, fostered leadership, and instilled in young people the values that strengthen families, communities, and our Nation.

Generations of Scouts have learned that leadership is not about titles but about action. It is about stepping up when others step back and about lending a hand when it is needed most.

Time and time again, Scouts have answered the call, whether responding to natural disasters, local emergencies, assisting veterans, or leading conservation efforts in their communities.

Even in my current role as U.S. Representative for Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District and chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, I use the lessons and values learned in Scouting to ease and to guide my decisionmaking.

The Scout Oath tells us that we have a duty to God, country, others, and self. This is a checklist that I use when voting on the House floor.

The first question I ask myself is how this affects my duty to God. Is the bill righteous according to God's Word, according to my faith?

If the bill passes this test, I ask myself whether this fulfills my duty to country. Will this benefit the country and my constituents? What does the Constitution have to say about the decision I am making?

If the bill passes this step, I will move on and ask myself how this fulfills my duty to others. For me, as Representative of Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District, that is more than 780,000 citizens in 18 counties, a third of the land mass of Pennsylvania. In my role as chairman of the U.S. House Agriculture Committee, that is being accountable to every individual in this Nation when it comes to food, fiber, and energy.

If the bill passes that step, I will move on and ask myself how this fulfills my duty to self. While this may sound selfish, it represents the duty I have to myself really based on another principle of Scouting: Am I prepared to do my best?

The Scout Law, Motto, and Oath are moral benchmarks for serving others, our community, and ourselves. Scouting enables the next generation of youth to develop leadership skills, connect with their community, build self-confidence, and gain numerous other benefits for themselves and their country.

The Scouting program is one of the best youth organizations for cultivating a sense of responsibility and leadership development, allowing them to become engaged citizens who care and respect their communities.

I will always cherish the time I spent in Scouting and value its role in shaping me into whom I am today.

I have been involved in Scouting for more than 50 years, including serving as a Scoutmaster and achieving the rank of Eagle Scout in 1977. Scouting helped me discover my life purpose: helping others.

I take the lessons learned throughout my young Scouting career and apply them at every aspect of my life today, including at my job serving as a United States Congressman.

As co-chair of the Congressional Scouting Caucus, I was proud to introduce a resolution, alongside my fellow Eagle Scout from Georgia, Mr. SANFORD BISHOP, designating Saturday, February 8, as Scouts of America Day to honor the tireless service of Scouts, volunteers, and participants in our communities.

The Scouts have a slogan: "Do a Good Turn Daily." I hope everyone sees the value in helping those around them and continues to pursue kindness.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Scouts, leaders, volunteers, and families who have helped keep this movement strong. Their dedication ensures that Scouting will continue to inspire and guide future generations.

PUERTO RICO'S OUTDATED ELECTRIC GRID

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Mr. HERNÁNDEZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ. Mr. Speaker, imagine it is New Year's Eve, and you are full of hope and optimism. This will be your year. You might finally get that promotion or you will graduate. You might finally lose those extra pounds.

All of a sudden, the power goes out. You are used to it. It is maybe the first time it happens that day. It probably isn't the first time it happens that week. It certainly isn't the first time it happens that year.

The hours go by, and the power doesn't come back. The clock strikes 12, you hear the fireworks, you hear the countdowns, but when you try to turn on the power, it doesn't turn back on.

That was the sad reality of nearly 1.2 million Puerto Ricans on New Year's Eve. That is the sad reality that many thousands of Puerto Ricans will face on an average day. Why? Because of an outdated power grid and a slow recovery process after Hurricane Maria.

Puerto Rico's energy crisis is not a partisan issue. The left can treat it as a humanitarian crisis. The right can see it as an obstacle to making America great again. The center can view it as both.

It is a problem and it needs a solution, which is why I, alongside Representatives TORRES and SOTO, sent a letter to the administration in support of our Republican Governor's request

for a federal emergency declaration to address this crisis.

We urge the administration to act. We urge the administration to unblock the Federal resources that Puerto Rico needs to address this problem. We urge the administration to empower the people of Puerto Rico to be able to overcome this issue.

Now, for the benefit of my constituents, I will repeat my remarks in Spanish.

(Spanish translation of the statement made in English is as follows:)

Señor presidente,

Imagina que es la víspera de Año Nuevo.

Estás lleno de esperanza y optimismo. Este será tu año. Vas a terminar la escuela; conseguirás ese ascenso; tal vez, finalmente, perderás esas libras de más.

Y, de repente, se va la luz. Puede que sea la primera vez que pasa ese día, pero probablemente no es la primera vez que pasa esa semana y, sin duda, no es la primera vez que pasa ese año.

Lamentablemente, ya estás acostumbrado. Pero pasan las horas y la luz no regresa.

El reloj marca la medianoche, ves los fuegos artificiales, escuchas la cuenta regresiva, pero no puedes encender las luces. Recibes el nuevo año con un sentimiento de desesperanza, frustración y desconsuelo.

Esa fue la triste realidad de casi 1.2 millones de puertorriqueños el 31 de diciembre.

Esa es la triste realidad de miles de puertorriqueños muchas veces al año.

¿Por qué? Por una red eléctrica anticuada y una recuperación lenta después del huracán María.

Este no es un asunto partidista. La izquierda puede verlo como un asunto humanitario. La derecha puede verlo como un obstáculo para "Make America Great Again". El centro puede verlo como ambas cosas. No importa; esto es un problema y necesita una solución.

Por eso, junto a los representantes Torres y Soto, envié una carta al presidente Trump en apoyo a la solicitud de la gobernadora republicana de Puerto Rico para que se declare una emergencia federal debido a la crisis energética de la isla.

Instamos a la administración a actuar. Los instamos a declarar un estado de emergencia, liberar recursos federales, y empoderar a Puerto Rico a enfrentar este reto.

CASE OF ETHEL ROSENBERG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. McGOVERN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the case of Ethel Rosenberg, who along with her husband, Julius, was convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage and executed in 1953.

For decades, evidence has cast serious doubt on the charges against Ethel Rosenberg. She had no KGB code name. In 2001, her brother even admitted falsely testifying against her.

Last year, with the help of my colleague, Intelligence Committee Ranking Member JIM HIMES of Connecticut,

I urged the National Archives and Records Administration to release information that we believed would exonerate Ethel.

Working with Robert and Michael Meeropol, Ethel's sons, we helped shake loose a Freedom of Information Act request for a crucial document written by a senior U.S. Army code breaker and analyst, Meredith Knox Gardner, in 1950.

□ 1230

In August 2024, we finally secured the release of this document, and it confirmed what we suspected and what the Meeropol brothers have always known: Ethel Rosenberg was not a spy.

Not only that, the government knew that she was not a spy and executed her anyway. Let me repeat that. This government, the United States Government, knew way back then that she was innocent and executed her anyway.

In fact, Gardner explicitly wrote in his classified memo that Ethel "did not engage in the work," meaning espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union, "herself."

Despite this concrete evidence, the government has never righted this wrong, and I, for one, think it is unconscionable. The truth is clear: Ethel Rosenberg's execution was motivated by fear and politics, and it was not based on the facts.

I urged former President Biden to exonerate her. The proof is right there in the documents, and we handed over everything. Yet, unfortunately, President Biden did not act.

Ethel Rosenberg's execution was a miscarriage of justice. I think it is a disgraceful stain on our history. It was also a tragedy that left two young boys orphans.

Her sons, Robert and Michael Meeropol, have spent their lives seeking justice for their mother, turning their pain into advocacy. Their work continues through a fund supporting children whose parents have been incarcerated or executed for political reasons. Their own children and family are even involved in this advocacy, and I greatly admire the way they have taken such a terrible tragedy of their lives and used it to put good back into the world.

I deeply admire them, but no family should have to fight this long for the truth. It is my hope that, one day, a Presidential administration will acknowledge the wrongfulness of her death and fully exonerate Ethel Rosenberg so that her name may be cleared once and for all. Until then, let the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD show and every person in this building know that the U.S. Government knew that Ethel Rosenberg was innocent.

We knew that she was not a spy, and we executed her anyway. I find that to be a disgrace, and I want to apologize for the pain and grief her family suffered because of what happened.

Ethel was put to death during the height of McCarthyism, a time of

hysteria when due process was cast aside. She was put to death at a time when due process was not guaranteed and our democratic values were not always upheld. We let fear, anger, and hate get the best of us.

We are currently living through an equally troubling time in our country. People are being targeted and attacked for the way they think, what they say, and who they are.

Facts must still matter, Mr. Speaker. Let's learn from our imperfect history. Nothing will bring Ethel Rosenberg back or erase the pain and challenges her sons have had to face in her absence, but as we continue to work to exonerate her, my hope is that by telling her story, we can prevent this dark chapter in our history from repeating itself.

Ethel's story has not been forgotten, and she must be exonerated.

PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY DATA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address ongoing concerns about Social Security, especially just in this past week since Mr. Musk has decided that he, in an unauthorized position not approved by the Senate and with no accountability, is after everybody's data and information at SSA.

Mr. Speaker, it might surprise some of the viewers in our audience to know why the wealthiest man in the world needs to know your Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid information. Privacy is something that Americans value. Data is something that billionaires can turn into money. Mr. Speaker, we need to know what role Elon Musk and DOGE—or I call it dodge because they dodge accountability—will have with the agency and everyone's hard-earned benefits, as if an unconfirmed, unelected billionaire should have access to yours or anyone's sensitive information.

If the cuts that they are promising and what he is looking for come through, then that means people's personal Social Security will be reduced by 36 percent. It hasn't been enhanced since Richard Nixon was President of the United States. Now, Mr. Musk is out because he has been charged to cut the budget by \$2 trillion. As everyone knows, 70 percent of the Federal budget comes from Social Security, Medicare, and defense.

They are coming after you. Specifically, they need that data also so he and his minions of unauthorized, unaccountable people can go forward.

We have written to Acting Commissioner King. Attorneys general across the country, including my own from the State of Connecticut, Attorney General Tong, are putting forward attempts. Then, we learned today or this

morning that President Trump says that he is just going to ignore the courts because he believes that he is above the law, Mr. Speaker, that he is not accountable to anyone. Now, he is saying that he is not even accountable to the courts because he and the billionaire class have gotten together and said: Don't worry. No one on the Republican side of the House and Senate who controls both the House and Senate is going to speak up and challenge us.

We need to protect Americans' privacy and their Social Security. For 40 percent of all Americans, Social Security is the basis for their retirement and their retirement savings. For 28 million Americans, Social Security is the only thing that they have, and that is why we have to make sure that we are protecting it, as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

LIFT EVERY VOICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BELL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, first, I would like to say happy birthday to my father, John Bell; happy heavenly birthday to my stepfather, Larry Greer; and happy Founder's Day to the national AME Church and, at home in St. Louis, St. Paul AME Church led by Pastor Spencer Booker.

I rise today humbled and with deep gratitude to deliver my first speech here in these Halls, this living testament to both the promise and the challenges of American governance.

I stand not merely as a Representative in Congress but as a proud son of St. Louis, one who believes in the power of bringing every voice into our shared conversation. It is my mission to ensure that every single person in my district feels seen, heard, and valued.

My first foray into public service was as a city councilman elected in 2015 in a place called Ferguson. In 2018, I was the first African American elected to serve as St. Louis County prosecuting attorney, working with community partners to create the first of its kind diversion advisory committee and connecting nonviolent offenders to substance abuse, opioid, and mental health treatment to address underlying root causes of crime. We also created the first conviction incident review unit in St. Louis County, investigating credible claims of wrongful conviction and police misconduct.

Here I stand, elected to this great House, at a time when the current administration has actively intended to make diversity into scarlet letters and is attempting to rebrand the three letters "DEI" into a four-letter curse word.

As we celebrate the lunar new year, we will not forget the contributions of

our AANHPI brothers and sisters in atomic science, medicine, and engineering, to name a few.

We will not forget the contributions of our Hispanic and Latino "brothers and sisters," "hermanos y hermanas," in science, music, medicine, and biochemistry, to name a few.

We will not forget our Muslim brothers' and sisters' contributions in education, science, and medicine, to name a few.

Moreover, we will not forget our Jewish brothers' and sisters' many contributions, but more personally to me, the contributions in the civil rights movement from those who bled and died during the Freedom Rides. Rabbis were locked in arms and risked their lives, marching across the Edmund Pettus Bridge with Dr. King and others, like the late John Lewis, who also graced these very same Halls.

As we celebrate Black History Month, I would be remiss if I did not also mention the tremendous contributions of Black folks in building this Nation.

To the current administration, I rise to say directly that Black history is American history; diversity is this Nation's superpower; equity is about fairness and fair play, which all Americans believe in; and inclusion literally refers to all of us.

From slavery to Jim Crow to being denied basic civil rights but still fighting for and believing in the promise of this promised land, it is this land that, despite that history, we still love.

This is evidenced by a song you may hear a lot during this month and in June. It is a song dubbed the Black national anthem. As my esteemed colleague Congressman CLYBURN accurately remarked, it is a song everyone can identify with. It is a song not about retribution, as it could have been. It is a song not about hopelessness, as it could be. On the contrary, it is a song about hope, faith, and freedom.

It is a song that does not direct some voices to be lifted, but directs us instead to:

Lift every voice and sing,
Till Earth and Heaven ring;
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the
dark past has taught us,

Sing a song full of the hope that the
present has brought us;

Facing the rising Sun of our new day
begun,

Let us march on till victory is won.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of West Virginia) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

In the spirit of a national pastime and a game well played, we rejoice with those who rejoice and do our best to refrain from gloating in the company of those who weep.

For it is not in our victory but the Lord's in which we trust. In the Lord, we will renew our strength. In the Lord's protection, do we find shelter. Inspired by Lord's abiding presence hovering over us, we run and do not grow weary. With the Lord's guidance and care, we will soar to new heights of faith.

In Proverbs, we read that there are many mysteries only the Lord can answer, like how a ship sails on the sea or how an eagle soars to the heights of the sky. But those who trust in the Lord will spread their wings and fly like eagles.

In faith, let us soar and humbly serve the Lord this day.

In Your strong name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PROTECTING FARM FAMILIES

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize crucial legislation that protects farm families. Farming tends to be an asset-rich but cash-poor industry, and America's hardworking farm families should not be unfairly burdened when it comes to accessing higher education.

For generations, these families have contributed to our Nation's food security and economy. Yet, their eligibility

for Federal student aid has been hindered by policies that count their land and equipment as financial assets, despite the fact that these are essential for their livelihoods and not readily available for educational expenses.

I am proud to cosponsor the Farm Family and Small Business Exemption Act, which would ensure that farm families and small business owners are no longer penalized for owning the tools and property that sustain their work.

By preventing these assets from being counted against financial aid eligibility, we are leveling the playing field and assuring that the children of farmers and small business owners have the same opportunities to pursue higher education as their peers.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives MANN and PANETTA for leading this commonsense solution. Investing in the future of farm families strengthens rural communities and our country.

SOUTH CAROLINA'S STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Governor Henry McMaster just gave the South Carolina State of the State address. I am grateful that under his leadership, the Palmetto State has achieved a historic year, with over \$8 billion in capital investment creating 5,500 new jobs.

Additionally, his goal 3 years ago to drop the State personal income tax rate has exceeded expectations. The tax rate continues to be reduced, helping taxpayers.

I am appreciative to be working with Governor McMaster and the Republican supermajorities, for the first time in 150 years, in the State senate led by President Thomas Alexander; in the house with Speaker Murrell Smith; my colleagues in the Republican Congress; and President Donald Trump are all working to make America great again.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent as warned by the FBI. Trump is reinstating existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength.

I thank President Trump for removing the academy boards to restore duty, honor, and country.

REPUBLICAN BAIT AND SWITCH

(Mr. JEFFRIES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the Republican bait and switch that has been taking place throughout the 119th Congress.

The Republican bait and switch has three elements:

Part 1: Talk about lowering the high cost of living but do nothing about it.

Part 2: Enact massive tax cuts for billionaires and wealthy corporations that will do nothing to improve the quality of life of everyday Americans.

Part 3: Stick working-class Americans with the bill for those massive tax cuts for billionaires and wealthy corporations by destroying Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid as we know it.

House Democrats want nothing to do with the Republican bait and switch, and we will do everything possible to stop it.

The cost of living in the United States of America is far too high. Housing costs are too high. Grocery costs are too high. Insurance costs are too high. Utility costs are too high. Childcare costs are too high. America is too expensive.

It is not acceptable, in the wealthiest country in the history of the world, that far too many everyday Americans are struggling to live paycheck to paycheck. It is time for us to do something about the high cost of living and to build an affordable economy for hard-working American taxpayers.

House Democrats hear you. We see you. We feel you when it comes to the pain being experienced by the American people, and we are determined to do something to make life better for you.

The Republican bait and switch has a very different plan. Last year, all we heard from our Republican colleagues was the need to do something about the high cost of living, while at the same time they ran away from Project 2025 as if it didn't exist.

This year, Republicans have spent all of their time implementing the most extreme parts of Project 2025 that have done nothing to lower the high cost of living. There has not been a single thing, a single bill, a single idea, or a single proposal from my House Republican colleagues to do anything about the high cost of living in the United States of America. Why? It is a Republican bait and switch.

Part 2 of the Republican bait and switch is that their true objective is to enact massive tax cuts for billionaires and wealthy corporations just like they did in 2017 when the GOP tax scam was passed where they set in motion legislation where 83 percent of the benefits would go to the wealthiest 1 percent.

My House Republican colleagues are back at it. There they go again with the same plan but nothing to drive down the high cost of living. Everything is about massive tax cuts for billionaires and wealthy corporations, who in many cases aren't even asking for it. They certainly don't need the relief that everyday Americans need, that working-class Americans need, that middle-class Americans need, and that all those people who aspire to be part of the middle class need. It is a Republican bait and switch.

What is the final element of the Republican bait and switch? Enact these massive tax cuts for billionaires and wealthy corporations and stick working-class Americans with the bill.

The nerve of this group of people who spent all last year lecturing the country about how they were going to do something to drive down the high cost of living, do nothing about it, are planning to enact massive tax cuts for their billionaire buddies, and then, as the final element of the Republican bait and switch, stick working-class Americans with the bill.

House Republicans have no plan to love and cherish Medicaid. Let's be very clear about that. They have no plan to love and cherish Medicaid. Their plan is to destroy Social Security, destroy Medicare, and destroy Medicaid as we know it.

With Republicans controlling the House, the Senate, and the Presidency, it is their intention to try and do it. Just watch what happens at the Republican budget hearing that is upcoming in terms of what is proposed. The cuts to Medicaid will be devastating. Hospitals will close, including in rural America and urban America and in the heartland of America.

Nursing homes will be shut down. Everyday Americans, children, seniors, and those who are suffering with disabilities will be hurt as part of the Republican effort to target earned benefits like Social Security and Medicare and to destroy Medicaid as we know it. It is the Republican bait and switch.

We will continue to expose it to the American people. House Democrats want nothing to do with it, and we are going to do everything in our power to stop it.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL MASON M. PATRICK

(Mr. HARIDOPOLOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late, great Major General Mason M. Patrick.

General Patrick, a West Virginia native, West Point graduate, and World War I veteran, honorably served our Nation for 41 years.

In 1921, General Patrick oversaw the creation of the United States Army Air Corps, the precursor to our modern-day Air Force.

Recognizing that true leadership comes from experience, he learned to fly at the age of 59.

His vision to place air power in its own branch was instrumental in building the world's first formidable Air Force.

In 1950, Patrick Air Force Base, in my district, was named in his honor, recognizing his historic contributions to military aviation.

Today, this base is known as Patrick Space Force Base, a testament to how America's leadership in the skies has evolved to dominate new frontiers.

His vision for America's air power laid the groundwork for today's advances in space exploration and defense.

May we always remember General Patrick's contribution to our Nation.

□ 1415

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES, Democratic Leader:

February 7, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON: Pursuant to section 803(a) of the Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Act (2 U.S.C. 803 (a)), I am pleased to appoint the Honorable David Trone of Potomac, Maryland to the Congressional Award Board.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Democratic Leader.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

DISABLED VETERANS HOUSING
SUPPORT ACT

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 224) to amend section 102(a)(20) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to require the exclusion of service-connected disability compensation when determining whether a person is a person of low and moderate income, a person of low income, or a person of moderate income, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 224

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Disabled Veterans Housing Support Act".

SEC. 2. SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITY COMPENSATION.

Section 102(a)(20) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302(a)(20)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(C) SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY COMPENSATION.—When determining whether a person is a person of low and moderate income, a person of low income, or a person of moderate income under this paragraph, a State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe shall exclude any service-connected disability compensation received by such person from the Department of Veterans Affairs.".

SEC. 3. REPORT.

The Comptroller General of the United States shall, not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit to the Congress a report that—

(1) examines how service-connected disability compensation is treated for the purposes of determining eligibility for all programs administered by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;

(2) identifies any instances where service-connected disability compensation is treated in a manner inconsistent with the amendment made by section 2; and

(3) with respect to each program administered by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in which service-connected disability compensation is treated inconsistently, provides legislative recommendations relating to how such program could better serve veteran populations, and under-served communities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 224, the Disabled Veterans Housing Support Act, introduced by my good friend from Texas, Congresswoman MONICA DE LA CRUZ.

It has been said that what the American people desire is not bigger government but a much better and more effective government. The reforms proposed in this bill would accomplish just that. This bill would reform a program meant to assist those in need, HUD's, Housing and Urban Development's, Community Development Block Grant program. This includes helping our Nation's low-income veterans with the

housing challenges that many of them face across our Nation. However, the bureaucratic obstacles at HUD know no bounds.

Mr. Speaker, today, veterans are being turned away from this very positive CDBG program. How is that? The formula HUD tells communities to use to see if veterans qualify as low income and are therefore eligible to participate in the CDBG program counts service-connected disability compensation as income, whereas other government programs correctly do not.

The result has been, in some places, especially in our most rural areas, communities have to tell low-income, disabled veterans they are too wealthy to qualify for help.

Truly, Mr. Speaker, you cannot make this up.

Excluding low-income veterans because they are disabled is not what Congress intended for communities to take action on by receiving CDBG funds. Of course, HUD understands this exclusion has been happening. Yet, rather than fix the issue by providing clear rules on how to calculate the income of disabled veterans, the Biden administration kept saying that it was someone else's problem.

Mr. Speaker, that ends today with this good bill.

This bill would reform CDBG's income calculation formula, telling HUD, in no uncertain terms, to stop including service-connected disability compensation as income.

Fixing programmatic flaws and bureaucratic obstacles is exactly what the American people have sent these Members to this House floor to do. It is unfortunate that HUD has had several opportunities to fix its flawed guidance without Congress, but it has refused to act even with multiple letters from our Financial Services Committee.

This commonsense fix, which passed out of the committee with strong bipartisan support and on suspension in this House during the previous Congress, ensures that disabled veterans who have served our Nation with honor receive the benefits that they have earned and deserved. Under the leadership of Representative DE LA CRUZ, we will ensure that HUD stops excluding our Nation's heroes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 224, the Disabled Veterans Housing Support Act, sponsored by Representative DE LA CRUZ.

While I appreciate Ms. DE LA CRUZ's intention to better serve our veterans who have served this country, it is ironic that this bill seeks to improve a program that the Trump administration has already threatened to dismantle through an illegal funding freeze.

Specifically, the Trump administration and Musk's illegal DOGE unit continue to threaten to cut programs and

freeze Federal funding that has already gone out the door, including funds meant to serve veterans. In fact, committee staff continue to hear that some CDBG grantees remain locked out of their payment systems and are therefore unable to access Federal funds authorized by Congress. These are funds that are meant to help low-income and moderate-income communities, including disabled veterans, the very people this bill claims to want to help.

If Republicans are concerned about housing upgrades for disabled veterans who honorably served this Nation, then they should find the honor and courage to stop the Trump administration's and the billionaire boy's illegal actions that are harming our Nation's veterans, whether it is stealing private Federal data on millions of Americans or stealing the funding that would otherwise help a disabled veteran upgrade their home to make it more accessible and livable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to stand up for disabled veterans and oppose co-president Musk's illegal takeover, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Mr. VARGAS from California, for his strong support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ), who is the lead sponsor of the bill.

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 224, the Disabled Veterans Housing Support Act.

Veterans, particularly disabled veterans, have made extraordinary sacrifices for our Nation, and it is simply unacceptable that those who selflessly defended our freedoms are met with bureaucratic red tape when they return home.

Government overregulation should never stand in the way of veterans' ability to receive the help they need. That is what this legislation will fix.

Due to inconsistencies in the way income eligibility is determined for Community Development Block Grant assistance, a veteran could be disqualified simply because their service-connected disability compensation is counted as income in one case but excluded in another. This simply doesn't make sense.

This is the result of HUD currently allowing multiple different definitions of income for CDBG assistance, some of which count service-connected disability received from the VA as income while one does not. To put it more simply, the same veteran who may have been disqualified for assistance could very well be eligible if the grantee would only have used the proper definition of income.

This legislation will create a standard and ensure VA service-connected disability income is always excluded from income calculations when determining eligibility for CDBG assistance.

By passing this bipartisan legislation, we are correcting an issue that HUD has failed to address. Further, we will require a report from the GAO to identify any additional inconsistencies in the treatment of service-connected disability income within housing programs.

Last Congress, I was proud to see this legislation garner bipartisan support in the Financial Services Committee and pass out of this House as recently as this past December. We will continue to build on this progress to ensure federally funded programs best serve our veterans and do not penalize them for the benefits that they have earned.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the bipartisan cosponsors for this legislation, including Congressman BRAD SHERMAN, and I urge my colleagues to join me and vote in favor of H.R. 224.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I believe this is the first time the gentleman from Arkansas has been presenting as the chairman, and I want to say that, as a friend, I am very proud of the gentleman, and it is good to see him as chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), who is the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Capital Markets.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the gentleman in his comments about how we need to protect our veterans from the ill-considered actions of President Trump and, I was about to say Secretary Musk, whatever he is. I, of course, join with Mr. VARGAS in welcoming our new chair of the Financial Services Committee.

I want to focus on the bill at hand, actually two bills at hand. We are dealing with this bill now and about four other bills will go by, and then we will deal with the companion legislation.

Ms. DE LA CRUZ is the chief Republican on my bill, which is going to come up in what I hope will be only 30 or 40 minutes. I am the chief Democrat on her bill.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has created various Federal programs to help those who are housing insecure, particularly veterans. Of course, to qualify for those programs, Mr. Speaker, you have to have an income under a certain threshold, so we have to define what is income. In particular, we have to ask: Do disability benefits paid by the VA count as income which might put a veteran over the threshold and deny the veteran participation in the housing benefits?

I think it should not for a number of reasons. First, we don't want disabled American veterans who are homeless or near homeless to be excluded from homeless programs. Second, the Internal Revenue Code already recognizes that disability benefits paid to veterans should not be considered income.

At the urging of many of us—I was particularly strong on this—the Department of Housing and Urban Devel-

opment has reached the same conclusion, at least from now, but here in Washington, it is not always good to just rely on an agency determination. A simple stroke of a Sharpie can change it one way or the other, now or in 4 years. What you want, Mr. Speaker, is legislation because that is near permanent.

Mr. Speaker, we have statutory provisions that make it clear that disability benefits paid by the VA should not be included in determining eligibility for veterans' housing. There is a reason for that, Mr. Speaker, and that is that you ordinarily think that if two people have the same income, then they are living at the same level. That is not true if you are a disabled veteran because you have the additional difficulties and the additional expenses of being disabled.

A veteran may have to pay for a health aide. The veteran can't get across town to take advantage of a sale. He or she is going to have a variety of additional costs because they are disabled, and that is what their disability benefit pays for, those additional costs. It doesn't necessarily mean that they have a standard of living that includes their disability payment.

Now, we deal with Congresswoman DE LA CRUZ's bill, which I strongly support. I hope it will pass unanimously in the next few minutes. This deals with the HUD Community Development Block Grant program. As I said, my legislation, which will come up hopefully not too long from now, deals with a different HUD program.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support both bills. They both have no score, so this doesn't cost the Federal Government any money.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 10 seconds to the gentleman from California.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, both bills are overwhelmingly supported by veterans organizations, including the VFW, Vietnam Veterans of America, The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, U.S.VETS, and Black Veterans Empowerment Council.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill and its companion legislation.

□ 1615

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUNN).

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ) for bringing this bill forward, the Disabled Veterans Housing Support Act, which I am proud to co-lead as a bipartisan sponsor on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, our country is facing a housing shortage crisis, and our veterans are hit the hardest, like the Vietnam veterans I spoke to in Bloomfield,

Iowa, who highlighted their lack of affordable quality housing.

Nearly 22 percent of all of Iowa's disabled veterans are finding it a challenge not only to find affordable housing but are also being put in a position where they can no longer gain access.

Mr. Speaker, no more. As a 20-year Air Force veteran, it pains me to see my fellow servicemen and -women literally on the streets in the heart of the heartland.

I have heard directly from our veterans services officers, and this is one of their top concerns. Ms. DE LA CRUZ' bill takes a positive step forward in helping more of our veterans access the resources they need to get into affordable housing. It ensures disability payments do not restrict their access to housing, whether they are in urban, suburban, or rural America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to take up this bipartisan call and support our veterans who need help now, particularly those who have given their all and served in a disabled capacity but have still earned the respect to live in affordable housing.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close if the gentleman from Arkansas has no further speakers.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, as the Trump administration continues its attack on the poor, the homeless, and on federally funded assistance with no Republicans stepping up to provide a check and balance on an illegal government takeover, House Democrats cannot sit here and have an honest debate about this policy.

What is more, the Trump administration has vowed to put more of America's housing in the hands of big investors and private equity firms.

The data shows what happens when private investors get their hands on more housing: Costs and junk fees go up, maintenance gets deferred, and evictions go up.

That is why I support this bill, most certainly. I think it goes the other way.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 224 as put forward by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ). She has heard strong support on a bipartisan basis on both sides of the aisle from our friends, Mr. VARGAS and Mr. SHERMAN in the minority, and Mr. NUNN in the majority.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 224.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CHINESE CURRENCY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2025

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 386) to require the United States Governor of, and the United States Executive Director at, the International Monetary Fund to oppose an increase in the weight of the Chinese renminbi in the Special Drawing Rights basket of the Fund, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 386

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Chinese Currency Accountability Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. OPPOSITION OF THE UNITED STATES TO AN INCREASE IN THE WEIGHT OF THE CHINESE RENMINBI IN THE SPECIAL DRAWING RIGHTS BASKET OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND.

The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Governor of, and the United States Executive Director at, the International Monetary Fund to use the voice and vote of the United States to oppose any increase in the weight of the Chinese renminbi in the basket of currencies used to determine the value of Special Drawing Rights, unless the Secretary of the Treasury has submitted to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a written report which includes a certification that—

(1) the People's Republic of China is in compliance with all its obligations under Article VIII of the Articles of Agreement of the Fund;

(2) in the preceding 12 months, there has not been a report submitted under section 3005 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988 or section 701 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 in which the People's Republic of China has been found to have manipulated its currency; and

(3) the People's Republic of China adheres to the rules and principles of the Paris Club and the OECD Arrangement on Officially Supported Export Credits.

SEC. 3. SUNSET.

Section 2 shall have no force or effect beginning 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 386, the Chinese Currency Accountability Act.

I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON), for sponsoring this important legislation.

As chairman of the House Financial Services Committee in this Congress, I am delighted that Mr. DAVIDSON has assumed the chairmanship on our Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions.

The Chinese Currency Accountability Act is not a new initiative. It passed the House under suspension of the rules last year after our committee reported it unanimously to the full House.

This bill is important to limit China's influence over one of our most crucial international, multilateral organizations. The International Monetary Fund, the IMF, acts as the world's critical lender to nations, particularly those heavily indebted, to handle critical balance of payments financing. It conducts its business through Special Drawing Rights, or SDRs.

SDRs not only serve as a unit of account for the IMF, but they also act as a reserve asset on the balance sheet of central banks and, as such, SDR assets earn interest.

Prior to 2016, both the value and the interest rate of the SDR was determined by a basket of currencies issued by the independent central banks of the world and overseen by democratic governments. These currencies were the U.S. dollar, the euro, the Japanese yen, and the pound sterling in the United Kingdom.

In 2016, the IMF then added the Chinese renminbi to the basket, even though the use of the renminbi was minuscule and the People's Bank of China is controlled by the Chinese Communist Party. Mr. Speaker, I don't believe that the rule of law in China merits this inclusion.

The decision in 2022 by the IMF to increase the weight of the Chinese currency in that basket was equally shocking. Not only did China's political control of the central bank remain unchanged, but the IMF also knew that China's predatory lending through its Belt and Road predatory lending program to emerging markets was threatening the future of the IMF's own programs.

The fact that it went ahead and boosted China's weight in that important SDR basket at the Fund is an embarrassment. Now the IMF finds itself lecturing other countries about central bank independence, but it charges them interest that is partially determined by the decisions at the People's Bank of China.

Hopefully, on this House floor, that irony is not lost on any Member or any

of the countries on the Board of Directors at the IMF.

Mr. DAVIDSON's bill would put an end to rewarding China's bad behavior. His legislation would require the Treasury Department to oppose further increases for Chinese renminbi in the IMF's currency basket until the Department of the Treasury certifies that China is in compliance with the IMF Articles of Agreement and adheres to the lending standards upheld by the world's major creditors.

In other words, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 386 isn't about holding China to a double standard. It means forcing the People's Republic of China to follow the same international rules of the road if it wants to enjoy the benefits of multilateralism and global leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend Mr. DAVIDSON for this important measure. I urge all of my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 386, the Chinese Currency Accountability Act, sponsored by my friend and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON).

Mr. Speaker, this bill would require the Secretary of the Treasury to oppose a future percentage increase in the weight of China's currency in the IMF's international reserve asset known as the Special Drawing Rights, or SDRs, unless the Secretary of the Treasury independently certifies that China is in compliance with certain obligations to the IMF and with other international standards.

While I support this bill and its intentions, I will note that the Treasury Department stresses that, due to confidentiality between the IMF and its member countries, it is impossible for the Secretary to independently certify that China is complying with the IMF obligations.

I hope that Representative DAVIDSON and his colleagues will work with us to make changes to this bill to ensure that it could be executed as intended.

I also must add that it is enormously ironic that we are passing a bill focused on a nation's transparency at a time when President Trump is running one of the least transparent governments in our Nation's history.

As the last Trump term starts, we, again, do not have disclosures or divestment from the President, meaning we don't know how he is personally benefiting from his administration's actions.

For example, President Trump introduced meme coins for himself and his wife, making it possible for any friend or foe with business before the President to trade millions in Trump cryptocurrency without any identification and verification.

Further, Trump's co-president, Elon Musk, is also refusing to publicly disclose and divest from his conflicted investments, despite being a fake employee of the government who has ac-

cess to millions of Americans' taxpayer dollars and personally identifiable information. It is transparency for the average American, but not for Trump and his oligarchs.

To fight corruption and kleptocracy, it is vital for the United States to have transparency in government. If we expect it of others, then we should model it and demand it for ourselves.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON), the bill's sponsor and author.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge this body to support H.R. 386, the Chinese Currency Accountability Act of 2025.

Mr. Speaker, this critical bill ensures that the United States stands firm against increasing the weight of the Chinese renminbi in the International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Rights, their currency basket, unless China changes course.

Frankly, China operates the Belt and Road Initiative in competition with the IMF, so this is a very modest proposal and very incremental. China should not even participate in the IMF while they are working to actually undermine the IMF with their alternative, the Belt and Road Initiative.

Additionally, the Special Drawing Rights are a useful global reserve asset, providing IMF members with claims on five major currencies: the dollar, the euro, now the renminbi, but also the Japanese yen and the British pound.

Most notably, this currency basket influences the IMF lending rate. All other central banks participating are market based. In 2016, the IMF decided they were going to include a non-market-based currency, the Chinese renminbi.

More concerning, in 2022, as Chairman HILL pointed out, the IMF actually increased the weight to 12.8 percent, making it the third most prominent currency, even though China lacks independence.

This bill directs the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury to oppose any further increase in the renminbi's weight unless China complies with its IMF obligations, that it is found to not be a currency manipulator, and that it adheres to the Paris Club and OECD rules on export credits.

None of this undermines China's growth or sovereignty. Instead, it points them to the path that they already promised to pursue when they chose to participate.

Further, when China joined the World Trade Organization, they pledged to become a market economy. While they made early progress, China has ceased such efforts, and they have instead worked to undermine Western institutions like the International Monetary Fund.

This bill has bipartisan support, having passed the House last September.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Finally, the CBO estimates it will have no significant impact on spending or revenue. Our foreign policy and financial institutions should advance our interests, not undermine them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

□ 1630

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, as China expands both its economy and global influence, it has been accused of manipulating its currency. This includes the use of its currency at international institutions like the IMF.

This bill would empower the Treasury Department to address that issue, which is a laudable goal. We should fight for the same type of transparency for our own government and government officials, including President Donald Trump and co-president Elon Musk.

It is a good bill, and I support it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I will echo the comments of my friend from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON) about the fact that China is not a full market economy. It has not met its obligations to act as a good sovereign on settling creditor concerns. The belt and road policies of China have deeply indebted so many global south nations in such a way that the IMF does not have a full picture of their financial status in order to have access to the IMF's lending authorities.

This is just another way, Mr. Speaker, for this House to, I think, make better policy and that we ask the IMF to have full transparency on what is happening in China and their participation with the Fund. One way to do that is to accomplish the worthy objectives here in H.R. 386. I ask all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 386.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CHINA EXCHANGE RATE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2025

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 692) to require the United States Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund to advocate for increased transparency with respect to exchange rate policies of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 692

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “China Exchange Rate Transparency Act of 2025”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) Under Article IV of the Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the People's Republic of China has committed to orderly exchange rate arrangements, the avoidance of exchange rate manipulation, and cooperation with the IMF to ensure “firm surveillance” of the exchange rate policies of the People's Republic of China. Pursuant to Article VIII of the Articles of Agreement of the IMF, the IMF may require the People's Republic of China to furnish data on gold and foreign exchange holdings, including assets held by non-official agencies of the People's Republic of China.

(2) In its November 2022 report, entitled “Macroeconomic and Foreign Exchange Policies of Major Trading Partners of the United States”, the Department of the Treasury concluded, “China provides very limited transparency regarding key features of its exchange rate mechanism, including the policy objectives of its exchange rate management regime and its activities in the offshore RMB market.”. The Department continued: “China's lack of transparency and use of a wide array of tools complicate Treasury's ability to assess the degree to which official actions are designed to impact the exchange rate.”.

(3) In that report, the Department further noted that “China's failure to publish foreign exchange intervention and broader lack of transparency around key features of its exchange rate mechanism make it an outlier among major economies and warrants Treasury's close monitoring.”.

SEC. 3. ADVOCACY FOR INCREASED EXCHANGE RATE TRANSPARENCY FROM CHINA

The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund (in this Act referred to as the “IMF”) to use the voice and vote of the United States to advocate for—

(1) increased transparency from the People's Republic of China, and enhanced multilateral and bilateral surveillance by the IMF, with respect to the exchange rate arrangements of the People's Republic of China, including any indirect foreign exchange market intervention through Chinese financial institutions or state-owned enterprises;

(2) in connection with consultations with the People's Republic of China under Article IV of the Articles of Agreement of the IMF, the inclusion of any significant divergences by the People's Republic of China from the exchange rate policies of other issuers of currencies used in determining the value of Special Drawing Rights; and

(3) during governance reviews of the IMF, stronger consideration by IMF members and management of the performance of China as a responsible stakeholder in the international monetary system when evaluating quota and voting shares at the IMF.

SEC. 4. SUNSET.

This Act shall have no force or effect on or after the date that is 30 days after the earlier of—

(1) the date that the United States Governor of the IMF reports to the Congress that the People's Republic of China—

(A) is in substantial compliance with obligations of the People's Republic of China under the Articles of Agreement of the IMF regarding orderly exchange rate arrangements; and

(B) has undertaken exchange rate policies and practices consistent with those of other issuers of currencies used in determining the value of Special Drawing Rights; and

(2) the date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 692, the China Exchange Rate Transparency Act. I thank my friend, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER), for his leadership in crafting and sponsoring this legislation.

I also congratulate him for assuming the chairmanship of the Financial Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations for this, the 119th Congress. He is off to a superb start.

H.R. 692 is a critical tool as we reassess our economic relations with the People's Republic of China.

Unlike advanced economies with floating currencies, the Chinese manage their exchange rate through a non-independent central bank and a state-owned set of financial institutions.

The Treasury Department has long been tasked with monitoring foreign countries' intervention in the currency markets, with a legal mandate from this House to call them out when manipulating exchange rates in order to gain an unfair trade advantage.

The problem with China is that its exchange rate management is so opaque that Treasury cannot effectively assess the country's exchange activities.

Year after year, Treasury reports back to Congress showing how Beijing's lack of transparency makes China an outlier among our major trading partners. This is not only alarming for the United States but the world at large as last year the People's Republic of China recorded a trade surplus of nearly \$1 trillion.

Mr. MEUSER's bill requires Treasury to lobby for stronger surveillance of

Chinese currency practices at the International Monetary Fund, the primary institution overseeing foreign countries' exchange rate practices.

In addition, Treasury will have to push the IMF to highlight how China's opaque policies diverge from that of other major economies in the world.

H.R. 692 also requires Treasury to take China's lack of transparency into account when reviewing Beijing's shareholding level as a shareholder in the International Monetary Fund.

During the last shareholding review, Congress made it clear that an increase in voting power for China would be unacceptable given its absolute flouting of the multilateral rules of the road. To the IMF's credit, it agreed to keep China where it was.

Mr. MEUSER's important bill underscores that future increases should also be off the table if China continues to shroud its exchange rate practices in secrecy.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for sponsoring this measure. He is going after China in precisely the manner that Beijing most dislikes, by harnessing multilateral pressure across the world to hold this regime and Beijing accountable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the China Exchange Rate Transparency Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 692, the China Exchange Rate Transparency Act, sponsored by Representative MEUSER.

China has a history of devaluing its currency against the U.S. dollar, making its exports unfairly cheap and harming American small businesses. One way to confront this is to impose greater accountability on China through the International Monetary Fund.

This bill would require the U.S. to press the IMF to report on the impact of China's exchange rate policies on key IMF tools and consider whether China has been a responsible partner in the international monetary system when evaluating China's voting power at the IMF.

While these are sensible actions that Congress can take to prevent China from using its currency as an economic weapon, they seem like a small step given the big threat. I don't mean solely the very real threat from an aggressive China. I mean, the threat from Donald Trump, whose comments and actions are all designed to weaken America's power on the global stage.

Trump is withdrawing America from global organizations such as the World Health Organization and parts of the United Nations. Trump is attacking our allies like Colombia and Canada, making our friends question whether they are better off in a world with America in the lead.

Trump is starting what even The Wall Street Journal calls is the dumbest trade war ever, driving our partners

away from our markets and the U.S. dollar. He and his co-president, Elon Musk, are illegally and unilaterally ending America's foreign aid programs, causing a disaster for the recipients of that support, but also creating a mammoth void which China will step in and fill.

Perhaps worst of all, President Trump is signaling that America will abandon Ukraine and Taiwan, telling the globe that we are an unreliable partner, especially as a security partner, regardless of law and treaty to the contrary.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to tell Mr. Trump that we will not stand silent as you tear down America and America's role in the world.

Mr. Speaker, let us stand up to China at the IMF, but if, as our majority is signaling, we should adopt Trump's aggressive isolationist policies, then we are giving up the globe to a China that is more than happy to step into our void. That reduces this bill to nothing more than a hollow gesture.

Mr. Speaker, I will urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from California (Mr. VARGAS) for his remarks, but I will point out to him that here on this House floor today, Mr. Speaker, on both sides of the aisle, we are talking about how to improve oversight through the multilateral process against some countries such as China who don't always have the best interests at heart, both in the trade market and in economic affairs in the country.

I believe that our recently elected, recently inaugurated President absolutely knows how to help hold them accountable. These are the exact kind of tools that will strengthen the hand of our new Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent as he thinks about going to multilateral meetings. These will strengthen the hand of our hopefully soon-to-be-confirmed colleague at the United Nations.

We are here on the House floor today to talk about how we can strengthen American leadership across the globe. One way to do that is to counter China's attempt to manipulate world's rules.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER), to describe its benefit.

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my very good friend, Chairman HILL, for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my legislation, the China Exchange Rate Transparency Act, H.R. 692, a bipartisan bill supported by my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

This legislation directly confronts the People's Republic of China's very

nebulous, opaque, and often manipulative practices in foreign exchange markets, including their policy of intentionally depreciating their own currency, which undercuts the competitiveness of U.S. exports in a random manner that is targeted based upon products in particular industries.

By mandating the U.S. Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund to use the voice and vote of the United States to advocate for increased exchange rate transparency from China, we are not just advocating for fairness; we are fighting for the integrity of the global economy in line with our own international trade goals. It is very reasonable.

During Treasury Secretary Bessent's nomination hearing, he explained that the United States can leverage foreign exchange rates to make U.S. exports more competitive; however, achieving this will require every country to abide by the same exchange rate standards. It is time we, in fact, confront China's persistent gaming of international norms. They have been playing by their own rules for too long, and it is detrimental to global economic fairness and stability.

This legislation is not about singling out China; it is about ensuring that all IMF members, including China, adhere to the rules they agreed to. China promised to maintain orderly exchange rate arrangements without manipulation. It is our job to hold them to that promise to ensure they do not continue to exploit the system to their advantage.

We are taking a firm no-nonsense approach to a complex issue, emphasizing our commitment to fair trade and a transparent economic system.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support the China Exchange Rate Transparency Act, H.R. 692, which did pass overwhelmingly last Congress by a vote of 379–1.

This legislation is a stand for accountability in international finance, fair trade practices, and the stability of a global economy.

It is very important, and now with the Secretary of the Treasury, Scott Bessent, this will be an added tool for somebody strong and tough like he to utilize to create this economic trade stability and fairness, particularly with China.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HARIDOPOLOS), one of the newest members on the House Financial Services Committee, the committee whip.

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, as a new Member of Congress, I am honored to be on the floor today to support this good bill.

For decades, it has been suspected that China manipulates its exchange rate to keep the dollar value of their currency artificially low.

Why do they do this? To simply manipulate the market, to encourage ex-

ports and discourage imports, tipping the scales in their favor. That is not free trade, nor is it fair trade.

Even the World Trade Organization and the International Monetary Fund both prohibit the use of currency manipulation to gain trade advantages.

However, like so many other issues, the Chinese Communist Party's lack of transparency on this issue has been a roadblock to taking action to end this unfair practice.

□ 1645

Let's bring their trade practices into the sunlight. This brilliant bill by my colleague from Pennsylvania, Mr. MEUSER, who chairs the Financial Services Committee's Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, will require Treasury to push IMF members to take China's lack of transparency into account when considering China's shareholding at the Fund.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this good bill as a step forward toward fairer trade with the Communist dictatorship.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

China has been accused of manipulating its currency to expand both its economy and global influence. Concerns about this include its effects on American interests at international institutions like the International Monetary Fund. This bill proposes a way to address that, and I support it.

I reiterate my concerns, however, that to do so in light of President Trump's efforts to defy the law, Congress, and the Constitution by ending our foreign aid programs, withdrawing from global institutions, and attacking our allies is folly. In order to actually stand against Chinese aggression, one must stand up against our own President's aggression and his malign policies.

Mr. Speaker, again, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close. I thank Mr. MEUSER for his hard work on this bill.

To friends on both sides of the aisle, these are both significant reform efforts in the IMF to improve transparency and particularly for what we have seen over the years as a lack of being willing to play by the multilateral rules that all large developed economies have been doing. Therefore, I really support these bills.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 692, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 692, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HILL OF Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PROTECT SMALL BUSINESSES FROM EXCESSIVE PAPERWORK ACT OF 2025

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 736) to amend title 31, United States Code, to modify the deadline for filing beneficial ownership information reports for reporting companies formed or registered before January 1, 2024.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 736

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Protect Small Businesses from Excessive Paperwork Act of 2025”.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION TO FILING DEADLINE FOR CERTAIN PRE-EXISTING REPORTING COMPANIES.

Section 5336(b)(1)(B) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking “before the effective date of the regulations prescribed under this subsection shall, in a timely manner, and not later than 2 years after the effective date of the regulations prescribed under this subsection,” and inserting “before January 1, 2024, shall, not later than January 1, 2026.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 736, the Protect Small Businesses from Excessive Paperwork Act. I thank Representative NUNN of Iowa for his work on this important legislation.

In 2021, Congress passed the Corporate Transparency Act, known as the CTA. The goal of the CTA was to strengthen national security tools to target bad actors and nation-states attempting to launder money through illicit activities. To accomplish this, the CTA established the beneficial ownership information reporting regime

through Treasury’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, known across the country as FinCEN.

With an effective date of January 1, 2024, the CTA regulations required roughly 32,600,000 small businesses in the United States to report their beneficial ownership information to FinCEN by the following year. To the best of my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, only some 9 million, or one-third, of those required small businesses have filed.

Recent Federal court actions on this confusing and complex rule have just added to the confusion that many of our Members are hearing about from their constituents in their districts.

Although this law was enacted with good intentions, Treasury’s promulgation and implementation of the new reporting regime has been overly complex and particularly burdensome. Over the last year, Members have heard consistently from their constituents that confusion reigns when it comes to beneficial ownership reporting requirements.

We have all heard not only from small businesses that are in the real estate business or some small operating businesses that have a limited liability company or a limited partnership, but we have heard from their CPAs, their certified public accountants, and their legal advisers about all the confusion and concern around these reporting requirements.

It does not help that many small businesses have no idea what FinCEN is, making them wary of submitting such sensitive data to a government agency with which they are not familiar. It is personally identifiable information, the most sensitive information we have: our name, our taxpayer ID number, and ownership of our companies.

That is why Congressman NUNN’s bill provides a 1-year extension of the reporting deadline, which will allow FinCEN to address gaps in its nationwide education campaign and tailor its outreach to small business owners.

This extension ensures that all small business owners that qualify and are required, as beneficial owners, to report have adequate time to try to complete their reporting requirements, while here in Congress we continue to fight back against this particular rule and its structure. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, these small business owners face aggressive penalties if they fail to report, even if it is unintentional.

Small businesses in this country are the backbone of our economy. I hear that said many times every week on this House floor. If that is true, we ought to be working together to get relief for them from this onerous rule. I commend Mr. NUNN for offering relief with this particular legislation.

I want to highlight the work of my Republican colleagues for their cosponsorship of this critical legislation and thank my friends on the other side of the aisle, the gentlewoman from Kan-

sas (Ms. DAVIDS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. DAVIS), for signing on to H.R. 736. I hope they will help us get this legislation over the finish line to benefit America’s small businesses, even if it is in a moment of reprieve from the avalanche of rules.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting Mr. NUNN’s bill, H.R. 736, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, despite the ill-named bill, I rise in support of H.R. 736, the Protect Small Businesses from Excessive Paperwork Act, sponsored by Representative NUNN.

This bill extends the deadline for existing reporting companies under the Corporate Transparency Act, an essential piece of national security legislation designed to help law enforcement, financial institutions, and others root out the anonymous shell companies that are so often abused by domestic and foreign oligarchs, drug dealers, and terrorists to launder and hide their illicit funds.

Extending the reporting deadline gives businesses extra time to comply with the law and additional time for the U.S. Treasury to do the vital outreach needed to raise awareness among applicable businessowners.

I appreciate that Representative NUNN and Chairman HILL have chosen to offer this bill on the floor today, especially given the broad support for issuing this extension within our committee, but I have to say, given where things stand with the Trump administration, these concerns fall a little flat.

Since the inauguration, President Trump has disbanded Task Force KleptoCapture, which was designed to identify and pursue illicit Russian funds. He has declared that he will no longer prosecute most foreign corruption cases. President Trump has fired hundreds of bank examiners, who are responsible for ensuring that financial institutions are keeping up with their obligations to detect and report possible instances of financial crime. He shuttered the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, which has returned \$21 billion to defrauded Americans. Further, he and his GOP have fired criminal investigators at the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Internal Revenue Service and prosecutors at the Department of Justice. He himself has offered cryptocurrency products that can be purchased without any verifiable identification, undercutting the very financial crime-fighting agencies that the CTA intends to bolster.

Yes, I urge Members to vote for this bill, though it has little meaning if my GOP colleagues remain silent as President Trump dismantles the national security and law enforcement capacity of the U.S. Government.

Also, it is ironic that I hear my good friend from Arkansas talk about the most sensitive, vital information that

we have, our personally identifiable information, and at this moment, we don't even know who has access to it.

That is one of the things that angers most Americans. They don't know what Elon Musk is doing with this information or which young kid is running through these organizations getting that information and for what purpose they are using it.

Rome is burning, and my colleagues across the aisle need to stop fiddling and pick up the fire extinguisher.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUNN), the lead sponsor who has crafted this constructive bill.

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues from both Arkansas and California for their support of my bill, the Protect Small Businesses from Excessive Paperwork Act.

Mr. Speaker, in just the opening weeks of Congress, we have already led on bipartisan solutions to help our small businesses be successful and get a reprieve from the vast overreach that currently emanates from Washington, D.C.

Small businesses, as we have noted, are the backbone of America. In my home State, they make up nearly 80 percent of our State's growth alone.

Sadly, there are bureaucrats here in Washington who are focused on fines, fees, and prison time for nearly 32 million small businesses that only woke up to new regulations just showing up on the scene. Unfortunately, nearly 23 million of those small businesses have never even heard or received information about the new requirements that they must meet. In fact, some even mistook them for scams coming out of a Federal agency they have never even heard of.

Small businesses should not bear the risk of fines of up to \$600 per day for every violation and up to nearly 24 months in prison for failure to report on a law they weren't even familiar with.

In the first year alone, it will cost a small business around \$8,000 in compliance fees. That blows my mind. In fact, it compelled me to invite the Director under the Biden administration of FinCEN, Director Gacki, to come to Iowa. Yes, we were Iowa nice to her, but we were Iowa firm. She heard from Sonrisers Popcorn and Berg Electric, which told her how much these new requirements would directly impact their Main Street businesses.

To make matters worse, she informed them with a straight face that over 7 million businesses had already complied. This was with only weeks before final implementation went into effect. To be clear, this meant that around 80 percent of the small businesses remained completely unaware of the new rules and regulations and risked those fines I mentioned.

With 99 percent of Iowa's businesses being small businesses, those fines

would add up and shutter Main Streets across my community and this country. Nationally, it would total around \$160 billion in compliance costs levied upon Main Street businesses, small family farms, and communities across our country.

I think we can all agree that regulators should be focused on protecting small businesses, not fining them out of existence.

Keeping a small business open requires that a mom-and-pop shop put in a lot of hard work and long hours. It means that new entrepreneurs can be innovative and spend money to grow our economy, not trying to meet some arbitrary government regulation. Our government should not stifle entrepreneurs with a heavy hand when they are only doing their best to serve our communities.

□ 1700

That is why I am committed to fighting for Main Street. I am committed to fighting for our family farms. I am committed to fighting for our hometowns.

This bill would help protect small businesses from excessive paperwork. This is a simple solution that we worked on together, and it is one of the most pressing concerns that small businesses face.

Whether you are a Democrat or a Republican, we all have small businesses and a hometown responsibility to fight for them today.

I am grateful for everyone who helped to lead and sponsor this bill, including the National Small Business Association, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and our National Cattlemen's Association. Even cowboys want less regulation.

I also thank our cosponsors on this bill, including our co-leads, House Majority Whip TOM EMMER, and my friends across the aisle, Representative SHARICE DAVIDS and Representative DON DAVIS.

As a result, we have the opportunity to once again make sure that not only America is great but that our hometowns have the opportunity to prosper and hold Washington accountable.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I am prepared to close if the gentleman from Arkansas has no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I once again thank Chairman HILL for his leadership. I do, as well, rise today in strong support of the Protect Small Businesses from Excessive Paperwork Act of 2025, H.R. 736, introduced by my colleague, Congressman NUNN.

Small businesses create jobs, drive innovation, support local communities, and really make the difference in communities. Unfortunately, the previous administration imposed many duplicative and costly regulations on small

businesses simply to make it harder for them to survive. One of the latest and most egregious examples is the FinCEN beneficial ownership information reporting rule, which we are all very aware of at this point. This rule literally forces millions of small businesses that have less than 20 employees and under \$5 million in revenue to file redundant, intrusive, and unnecessary reports to the Federal Government under the threat of very steep penalties of up to \$10,000.

H.R. 736 rightfully delays the beneficial ownership reporting rule 1 year, to 2026, giving the Trump administration and the courts time to assess the proper path forward for small businesses. Actually, this reporting information can provide some usefulness as opposed to just a great burden.

Republicans received a mandate to cut the red tape and push back against unnecessary, punitive regulations—and we are going to do it—that do more harm than good.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank Chairman HILL and Representative NUNN for prioritizing this much-needed relief for small businesses. Small businesses need our support, not our red tape and bureaucratic demands for unnecessary, nonsensical information.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is important that you note the comment made by Mr. MEUSER on the subject of 20 employees or \$5 million. The definition of this bill says that a small business that has to report, these 32-plus million businesses that we are talking about, the definition is that they have fewer than 20 employees and fewer than \$5 million.

My friend from California rightfully said that the concern of the Federal Government is about illicit finance through the use of shell companies incorporated in one of our States. Let that sink in for everybody listening to this debate: \$5 million in revenues, 20 employees.

Mr. Speaker, for decades, before I came to Congress a few years ago, I helped start businesses and helped finance businesses, all of which would dream to have \$5 million in annual revenues and 20 employees.

Think about your best friend who has an HVAC contracting company to help people with their air-conditioning and heating. He works there. His son works for him. They have a couple of million dollars in revenue. It is his whole livelihood. He loves it. He is the best at what he does, but in this world, in this House, he is accused of being a shell company and is being burdened by this rule.

Once again, so many times the government goes after the bad guy and sweeps up everybody. That is why Mr. NUNN has come to this floor to say that we need another year to think about

this. I would certainly urge the incoming administration to rethink the whole process because Mr. VARGAS is right: It is an important thing to do, to try to capture illicit finance, but it is another thing in the world to sweep up every American trying to live the American Dream with their own small business.

We want people who want \$5 million in revenue and have 20 employees. What a joy.

We are united on this today, Mr. Speaker, and I think that is good for the American people to see, too, that we care about what is happening. Occasionally, we get it wrong in government, and we work hard to try to rectify it. That is what ZACH NUNN of Iowa is fighting for small businesses to do.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HARIDOPOLOS), the committee whip.

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for bringing this to the floor and my colleagues across the aisle for working together on this important bill. It is great that common sense is making a comeback in America.

I applaud the sponsor of the bill, Mr. NUNN of Iowa. He has done a remarkable job of bringing this to the forefront as people recognize the impact that burdensome paperwork can have on our American economy.

In recent years, the previous administration imposed complex and costly beneficial ownership requirements, backed by the threat of civil and criminal penalties. Compliance could cost up to \$8,000 per year, and little was done by the Treasury Department to communicate those requirements to businessowners.

As a result, with little clarity and even less time to comply, over 30 million small businesses are now facing the risk of thousands of dollars in fines and potentially years behind bars if egregious.

Why are we making criminal suspects out of businessowners? American businesses already file a considerable amount of paperwork to ensure that money launderers and bad actors are unable to operate through shell corporations, as the chairman highlighted.

Why are millions of American small businesses now forced to file these regulations when they have already been burdened by so much extra paperwork?

This extension will also give our new Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Bessent, the time to apply common sense in helping small businesses meet these reporting requirements.

This bill is a strong start to reduce the immense regulatory burden that America's small businesses face each day, and it protects businessowners from unjust criminal liability.

Let's pass this bill and get back to common sense.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, the Corporate Transparency Act has been called the most

important improvement to the U.S. anti-money laundering framework in a generation. To both effectively enact the law and to assist companies whose reporting is essential to fight against oligarchs and criminal cartels, we need the extension provided by this bill.

As my good friend from Arkansas said, we, too, see and hear small businesses and businessowners. In fact, California has the largest number of small businesses in the United States. We don't want them to get swept up in the Corporate Transparency Act, but at the same time, we also need the ability to identify, investigate, and prosecute the bad actors.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to stand up and speak out against what we are seeing today, unfortunately, which is President Trump's vengeful and self-interested destruction of our American national security, and to demand that we get information on how Elon Musk and his young marauders are using Americans' personal information.

We want to know: What are they doing with all of this information that they are gathering about all of these Americans? What is he doing with it? We have no idea, and no one is asking questions on the other side.

Again, it is important that my colleagues listen to their constituents right now, on both sides of the aisle. I know in my district, Republicans and Democrats want to know: What is going on with all of this information that Elon Musk is drawing out of the Federal Government? What is he doing with it? We have no idea. There is no investigation of this. We demand answers, and we think our friends on the other side should demand answers to this also.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, we have had a good, robust debate on the importance of the right tools for the Treasury, for our States, and for our law enforcement to root out illicit finance.

Today, the Corporate Transparency Act, I think, has been exposed for what it is, which is a tremendous overreach in that effort that has added complexity, financial burden, and confusion for our small businesses.

There is a better way to go about this, and I hope we can work together on both sides of the aisle and with the Treasury Department in the coming months to find that better solution, that least-costly solution, that solution that protects people's privacy, that protects personally identifiable information contained in these filings, and that does it in a way that is less intrusive and less costly.

The concern I have about these big databases, Mr. Speaker, is intrusion

from China, Iran, Russia, and North Korea, our adversaries that every day are trying to break into the systems of the Federal Government and our private sector of this country to gather this personally identifiable information.

We have talked about it on this House floor, Mr. Speaker: IRS, hacked; Office of Personnel Management, hacked; the CFPB, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau databases, hacked; others, hacked; private sector, hacked. This is just another giant database that puts people's data at risk.

Not only do I think there is a better way to do it, a less costly way to do it, and a more effective way to do it, but also a way to do it that protects people's privacy.

I thank Mr. NUNN for working on both sides of the aisle to craft a way. Let's take a new look, and let's do that by approving this bill overwhelmingly, encouraging the Senate to do the same so that we protect these small businesses in the interim, over the next year, from this horrendous cost and confusion by rising in strong support today on both sides of the aisle and passing H.R. 736.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 736.

The question was taken.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CREDIT UNION BOARD MODERNIZATION ACT

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 975) to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modify the frequency of board of directors meetings, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 975

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Credit Union Board Modernization Act".

SEC. 2. FREQUENCY OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS.

Section 113 of the Federal Credit Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1761b) is amended—

(1) by striking "monthly" each place such term appears;

(2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "The board of directors" and inserting the following:

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The board of directors";

(3) in subsection (a) (as so designated), by striking “shall meet at least once a month and”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) MEETINGS.—The board of directors of a Federal credit union shall meet as follows:

“(1) With respect to a de novo Federal credit union, not less frequently than monthly during each of the first five years of the existence of such Federal credit union.

“(2) Not less than six times annually, with at least one meeting held during each fiscal quarter, with respect to a Federal credit union—

“(A) with composite rating of either 1 or 2 under the Uniform Financial Institutions Rating System (or an equivalent rating under a comparable rating system); and

“(B) with a capability of management rating under such composite rating of either 1 or 2.

“(3) Not less frequently than once a month, with respect to a Federal credit union—

“(A) with composite rating of either 3, 4, or 5 under the Uniform Financial Institutions Rating System (or an equivalent rating under a comparable rating system); or

“(B) with a capability of management rating under such composite rating of either 3, 4, or 5.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

□ 1715

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 975, the Credit Union Board Modernization Act.

I applaud my Committee on Financial Services colleagues, Representatives VARGAS and HUIZENGA, for introducing it. This bipartisan bill will help focus credit unions' time and resources where it really matters, which is serving their members.

Federal credit unions are governed by boards of directors who are currently required by law, Mr. Speaker, to meet at least once a month. This outdated requirement prevents credit unions from attracting talented volunteers and professionals to a credit union's board due to the time commitment of a monthly board meeting.

Under H.R. 975, certain well-functioning credit unions are provided with the option to meet at least six times annually with at least one meeting held during each fiscal quarter of the year.

This crucial change frees up the time and resources used for meetings to put toward the critical mission of providing financial services to their credit union members. Importantly, this bill has guardrails to ensure the safety and soundness of our financial system. Only credit unions with a CAMELS composite rating of a one or two will be permitted to meet at this less frequent rate.

All credit unions, just like commercial banks, are subject to a supervisory rating scale. It is called the CAMELS rating. A credit union is assessed at each of the six categories under that acronym, and they are assigned a composite rating on a scale of one, the best, to five, the worst, based on: capital adequacy, asset quality, management, earnings, liquidity, and sensitivity to market risk, hence the acronym CAMELS.

Therefore, this bill provides an incentive to achieve the strongest supervisory rating so that a credit union might access the flexibility offered by this bill.

Furthermore, by reducing the mandated number of board meetings for federally chartered credit unions, this legislation would promote parity between Federal and State-chartered credit unions as 17 States currently allow for meetings less frequently than monthly.

As I say, fewer mandated board meetings are especially helpful for rural credit unions who struggle to attract talent to their boards and also operate with significant regulatory burden and sometimes long travel. Of course, nothing in this legislation prevents credit union boards from meeting more frequently if they determine that is necessary.

Credit unions play an essential role in our communities across this country, and H.R. 975 will ensure that they are able to operate more efficiently. I thank the gentleman from California's 52nd District, Mr. VARGAS, for introducing this important bipartisan bill.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman HILL and Ranking Member WATERS for their support throughout this process.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 975, the Credit Union Board Modernization Act. Credit unions are a vital part of our country's economic stability and success. These not-for-profit, member-owned institutions serve over 140 million Americans. Yet for over 40 years, volunteer-led Federal credit union boards have been burdened by an unnecessary requirement on meeting frequency.

This bill gives financially sound and well-managed Federal credit unions the flexibility they deserve. It will adjust the board meeting requirement by allowing qualifying Federal credit unions to move from the current

monthly meeting to meeting a minimum of six times annually with at least one meeting each fiscal quarter.

This is a commonsense fix that allows Federal credit unions with a proven record of stability to dedicate more time and resources to the local communities they serve, like in San Diego, my hometown, and across the country.

This fix also makes it easier for more Americans who currently are not able to serve on these boards, due to the time commitment, to have an opportunity to bring their perspectives to the table. This bill contains key safeguards to ensure stability and mitigate risk.

Newly formed credit unions and those with poor ratings, as Mr. HILL stated, will still be held to the current monthly meeting requirements. Under this bill, only Federal credit unions with strong ratings from our Federal regulators and proven management capacities and capabilities will be eligible for the new meeting requirements. This reasonable bipartisan bill passed the House twice in both the 117th and 118th Congresses.

Again, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA) for working with me on advancing this legislation and his deep knowledge of the issues. It was actually a pleasure working with him again.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM).

Mrs. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman HILL for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 975, the Credit Union Board Modernization Act. I also want to stand up and echo and reiterate the points that I already addressed because this legislation is so important.

This bill would amend the Federal Credit Union Act to revise the frequency of the board meetings a federally chartered credit union must hold. Under current law, credit union boards must meet once per month, but this bill, H.R. 975, would allow credit unions to lower that threshold of required meetings to six per year.

This bipartisan bill is needed to increase flexibility and unlock more resources for credit unions to better serve their members and our communities.

Additionally, H.R. 975 creates an incentive for credit unions to improve their management ratings by decreasing the number of board meetings for those that have the best management ratings. On the other hand, credit unions that are poorly managed or are new Federal credit unions will still be required to meet on a monthly basis.

I commend my colleagues, Representatives HUIZENGA and VARGAS, for reintroducing this commonsense piece of legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 975 and eliminate burdensome regulations to let credit

unions do what they do best, which is to service their communities.

As you heard, this has been passed in the 117th and 118th Congresses. I think it is time to bring this home, and let's get this done this Congress.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, credit unions are vital to our economy and to our communities. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and the consumers and small businesses that they serve.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 975. I appreciate Mr. VARGAS sponsoring this good bill and Mrs. KIM speaking on it. They represent the State of California, and the State of California has some of the largest Federal credit unions active and headquartered in their State.

This will be a great service to those credit unions particularly and their home State of California to be able to focus on their members and have a few less meetings. I thank the gentleman from California for his sponsorship.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 975.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOUSING UNHOUSED DISABLED VETERANS ACT

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 965) to amend section 3(b)(4) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 to exclude certain disability benefits from income for the purposes of determining eligibility for the supported housing program under section 8(o)(19), and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 965

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act".

SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN DISABILITY BENEFITS.

Section 3(b)(4)(B) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(4)(B)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating clauses (iv) and (v) as clauses (vi) and (vii), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after clause (iii) the following:

"(iv) with respect to the supported housing program under section 8(o)(19), any disability benefits received under chapter 11 or chapter 15 of title 38, United States Code, received by a veteran, except that this exclusion may

not apply to the definition of adjusted income;

"(v) with respect to any household receiving rental assistance under the supported housing program under section 8(o)(19) as it relates to eligibility for other types of housing assistance, any disability benefits received under chapter 11 or chapter 15 of title 38, United States Code, received by a veteran, except that this exclusion may not apply to the definition of adjusted income;".

SEC. 3. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DISABILITY BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—When determining the eligibility of a veteran to rent a residential dwelling unit constructed on Department property on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, for which assistance is provided as part of a housing assistance program administered by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and not yet in existence at the time of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall exclude from income any disability benefits received under chapter 11 or chapter 15 of title 38, United States Code by such person.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(2) DEPARTMENT PROPERTY.—The term "Department property" has the meaning given in the term in section 901 of title 38, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arkansas?

There was no objection.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 965, the Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act introduced by my colleague on the Financial Services Committee, Congressman BRAD SHERMAN of California.

Much like the bill that we just considered a few minutes ago from our friend from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ), I want to start out by commending our colleague from California for his work on this related issue that once again speaks to the fairness in HUD programs on behalf of our Nation's veterans.

The Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing, or HUD-VASH, program was created back in 1992. The purpose was to assist homeless veterans with psychiatric and substance abuse disorders.

The VASH program is an important Federal tool that provides housing assistance and supportive services for low-income veterans experiencing homelessness. Of course, it might seem

redundant to some that a program to help homeless veterans would be geared towards those who are low-income, but sometimes with HUD nothing is ever simple.

Much like how HUD treats service-connected disability compensation of veterans as income in its CDBG program, HUD treats any disability benefits a veteran receives under chapter 11 or chapter 15 of title 38 of the U.S. Code as income under HUD-VASH.

A predictable result is some disabled homeless veterans are blocked from using a program to help all homeless veterans because HUD has decided that those low-income veterans that are disabled are too wealthy to qualify. Sound familiar? This is exactly the debate we had a few minutes ago.

Mr. Speaker, someone always has to explain these government bureaucratic messes to me because they never make any common sense.

The reform we are talking about today offered by Mr. SHERMAN fixes this problem. It reforms the HUD income calculation used in the HUD-VASH program to ensure that the disability payments of a low-income veteran do not exclude them from accessing this housing support.

The bill goes on to say that HUD needs to adopt the same income calculation standard for any future veteran housing program it might create using HUD-owned property. I applaud my colleague for calling attention to this problem and for his bipartisan work to find a solution.

While this may seem like an easy fix, this is Washington. There are no easy fixes, and HUD has consistently placed bureaucratic obstacles in the way of program efficiency time and time again.

In fact, when Representative SHERMAN brought this up last year to the Secretary of HUD, he got the same answer that Representative DE LA CRUZ got on her veterans CDBG income question: Hey, that is Congress' job to fix it, not HUD's.

Fix it, indeed we will. The approach the gentleman has taken in crafting this bill is a good one. It is one that will make a big difference in the HUD-VASH program, as well as: How about making a difference for the veterans who are eligible to use it? That is why we are on this House floor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative SHERMAN for his hard work to honor the promises that we have made to our veterans. I urge bipartisan support of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 965, the Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act sponsored by Representative SHERMAN. I thank Mr. SHERMAN for his work on this bipartisan bill which ensure homeless veterans, including those who may have higher incomes due to their disability benefits, can access supportive housing through the HUD-VASH program.

However, an important distinction in this bill will expand access to housing for more disabled veterans who are experiencing homelessness, while preserving limited rental assistance for those with the lowest incomes.

□ 1730

I also want to take this opportunity to talk about the importance of preserving the HUD-VASH program as the Trump administration threatens to trample on Congress' constitutional powers of the purse by freezing Federal funds that have already been designed and designated for the American people.

HUD-VASH is arguably the most successful Federal homeless program to date. In fact, under the Biden administration, Democrats were successful in lowering veteran homelessness to its lowest level ever on record. That is what we can get done when we prioritize housing for people, not profit.

HUD-VASH is the only Federal program that is built to end veteran homelessness through the Housing First approach, which Republicans have time and time again tried to discredit. Housing First works because it solves the root of the homelessness crisis, which is a lack of affordable housing.

Specifically, the program ensures people who are experiencing homelessness can first get off the street and into stable housing where they are then supported with wraparound services, such as case management, job training, healthcare services, and more. If Housing First works to help end veteran homelessness, it can work for everyone else, too.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and look forward to a more bipartisan effort to scale up proven Housing First solutions to end homelessness nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ), who has done so much to advance these reforms in HUD and our committee. We are grateful for her leadership.

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding.

I rise in support of H.R. 965, the bipartisan Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act, which I am proud to co-lead.

Our veterans, particularly disabled veterans, have sacrificed immensely for our Nation. Unfortunately, when they return home, they are met with unnecessary bureaucracy and government overregulation.

Though we can never repay them for their sacrifice, we can show gratitude by ensuring that bureaucratic obstacles do not stand in the way of veterans receiving the support they need.

H.R. 965 will make certain that disability benefits received by a veteran are not counted against a veteran seek-

ing housing assistance under the HUD-VASH program.

These programs are intended to help veterans, so let us ensure that we do all we can to ensure they achieve that mission by enacting commonsense measures.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan solution to ensure those that sacrificed so much for this great country are not penalized for benefits they have earned through their selfless service.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), who is the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Capital Markets, who is the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, these are two companion bills. It has been good working with her. My hope is that we not only pass both these bills today unanimously but that we actually get the Senate to act.

There is nothing more shameful than a homeless, disabled American veteran, one who has lost a limb defending us and now living on the streets.

There are two programs to focus on that are designed to provide housing for the unhoused. The De La Cruz bill, which I was proud to be the chief Democratic advocate of, dealt with the CDBG program. This bill deals with a joint program between HUD and the veterans administration, HUD and the VA, and that is why the bill's title spells out HUDVA.

The issue, again, is how do we define income for eligibility for housing. Certainly we should change that definition when it applies to veterans' housing for veterans on veterans' land.

The worst thing we could do is exclude disabled veterans. This is particularly true because perhaps the most significant parcel that this will affect is in my district, and it is the largest VA hospital in the West. What better place for disabled veterans to live when they need often hospital care than to live right there at the hospital.

This bill amends the HUD definition of annual income to exclude disability payments received by a veteran for eligibility purposes for housing under the HUDVA Supportive Housing program.

Last year, HUD, in a major victory for us, did decide to exclude disability benefits from this definition. It is now, I think, necessary for us to make that a statutory change so that it doesn't change with this or that administration.

Now, to qualify, as I have said, the central issue is whether VA disability benefits count as income. The Internal Revenue Code excludes them from that definition of income. As I said, in talking about the gentlewoman from Texas' bill, if you are disabled and you have disability benefits, those benefits don't necessarily raise your standard of living and raise your income from that standpoint when you have to spend your disability benefits on, for example, home healthcare, the additional

cost of living with a disability, etcetera.

The HUD-VASH program is designed to provide rental assistance. The inclusion of disability benefits in the annual income calculation excludes veterans who are disabled from living at a VA hospital land or part of a complex that includes a VA hospital. This legislation would address this problem.

The bill is supported by virtually all the veterans support organizations, such as VFW, Vietnam Veterans of America, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, U.S. Vets, and Black Veterans Empowerment Council.

The bill is also supported by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, because it is mayors, after all, who have to deal with the homeless and particularly homeless veterans in their cities.

This bill had 101 cosponsors last Congress and substantial bipartisan support in this Congress. I am pleased to have the co-leadership of Ms. DE LA CRUZ from Texas. It has a zero Congressional Budget Office score, so it does nothing to increase our deficit.

The recent wildfires in my area also exemplify this in that the VA hospital that I referred to is right there close to where these fires broke out.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to passing this bill and to persuade the Senate to do so as well.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

I would again thank Congressman SHERMAN for working across the aisle, in particular with Representative DE LA CRUZ from Texas on her companion bill, to make sure our Nation's HUD-VASH program works as effectively as possible.

This bill is a step forward in ensuring that every veteran who is experiencing homelessness can access the supportive housing they need, facilitating their successful reintegration into civilian life.

This is especially true for disabled veterans who experience unique barriers to housing that is inaccessible and increasingly unaffordable.

With this bill, we can assure and ensure disabled veterans have the resources they need to lead stable, fulfilling lives after their invaluable service to our Nation.

Again, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I thank Mr. SHERMAN for his good work on this and his partnership with Ms. DE LA CRUZ of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I also express my deep empathy and support of Representative SHERMAN, Representative CHU, Representative KIM, and others in the L.A. basin who are coping with the horrendous results and tragedy connected with the fires at Pacific Palisades and elsewhere where some 45,000 California homes were destroyed in just the blink of an eye and lives lost.

I thank Mr. SHERMAN for his focus on housing the least fortunate, our veterans, but also I know that he is concerned about what is going to happen in the months ahead as southern California recovers.

In this regard, Mr. Speaker, we will have a bipartisan roundtable tomorrow in the House Financial Services Committee where Members on both sides of the aisle will talk with experts about how best to improve resilience and think through recovery for southern California.

I thank my colleagues for their bipartisan work on H.R. 965. I urge a “yes” vote on both sides of the aisle, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 965.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MORAN) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 692; and

H.R. 736.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

CHINA EXCHANGE RATE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 692) to require the United States Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund to advocate for increased transparency with respect to exchange rate policies of the Peo-

ple's Republic of China, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 388, nays 7, not voting 38, as follows:

[Roll No. 36]			Miller (WV)	Riley (NY)	Subramanyam
YEAS—388			Mills	Rivas	Suozzi
Adams	De La Cruz	Houchin	Min	Rogers (AL)	Sykes
Aderholt	Dean (PA)	Houlahan	Moolenaar	Rogers (KY)	Takano
Aguilar	DeGette	Hoyle (OR)	Moore (AL)	Rose	Taylor
Alford	DeLauro	Hudson	Moore (NC)	Ross	Tenney
Allen	DelBene	Hurd (CO)	Moore (UT)	Rouzer	Thanedar
Amo	Deluzio	Issa	Moore (WI)	Ruiz	Thompson (CA)
Amodei (NV)	DeSalinier	Jack	Moore (WV)	Rulli	Thompson (MS)
Ansari	Diaz-Balart	Jackson (TX)	Moran	Rutherford	Thompson (PA)
Arrington	Dingell	Jacobs	Mrvan	Ryan	Tiffany
Auchincloss	Doggett	James	Moulton	Salazar	Timmons
Babin	Donalds	Jayapal	Murphy	Salinas	Titus
Bacon	Dunn (FL)	Jeffries	Nadler	Scanlon	Tokuda
Baird	Elfreth	Johnson (GA)	Neal	Schakowsky	Tonko
Balderson	Ellzey	Johnson (IA)	Nunn (IA)	Schmidt	Torres (CA)
Balint	Emmer	Johnson (SD)	Obertino	Self	Torres (NY)
Barragán	Escobar	Johnson (TX)	Ocasio-Cortez	Scholten	Tran
Barrett	Espaillat	Jordan	Ogles	Sewell	Turner (OH)
Baumgartner	Estes	Joyce (PA)	Olszewski	Sherman	Turner (TX)
Bean (FL)	Evans (CO)	Kaptur	Pallone	Van Duyne	Underwood
Beatty	Evans (PA)	Kean	Palmer	Van Orden	Valadao
Begich	Ezell	Kelly (IL)	Panetta	Vargas	Walberg
Bentz	Fallon	Kelly (MS)	Pappas	Veasey	Velázquez
Bera	Fedorchak	Kelly (PA)	Pelosi	Smucker	Vindman
Bergman	Feenstra	Kennedy (NY)	Perez	Sorensen	Weber (TX)
Beyer	Fields	Kennedy (UT)	Perry	Soto	Watson Coleman
Bice	Figures	Khanna	Peters	Spartz	Westerman
Biggs (SC)	Finstad	Kiggans (VA)	Pfluger	Stansbury	Whitesides
Bilirakis	Fischbach	Kiley (CA)	Pingree	Stanton	Wied
Bishop	Fitzgerald	Kim	Pocan	Stauber	Williams (GA)
Bonamici	Fitzpatrick	Knott	Pou	Stefanik	Williams (TX)
Bost	Fleischmann	Krishnamoorthi	Pressley	Steil	Wittman
Boyle (PA)	Fletcher	Kustoff	Quigley	Steube	Womack
Brecheen	Flood	LaHood	Ramirez	Stevens	Yakym
Bresnahan	Fong	LaLota	Randall	Strickland	Zinke
Brown	Foster	Langworthy	Raskin	Strong	
Brownley	Foushee	Larsen (WA)	Reschenthaler	Stutzman	
Buchanan	Fox	Latimer	NAYS—7		
Budzinski	Frankel, Lois	Latta	Biggs (AZ)	Crane	Roy
Burlison	Franklin, Scott	Lawler	Boebert	Gosar	
Bynum	Friedman	Lee (FL)	Burchett	Massie	
Calvert	Frost	Lee (NV)	NOT VOTING—38		
Cammack	Fry	Lee (PA)	Barr	Grijalva	Leger Fernandez
Carbajal	Fulcher	Letlow	Bell	Hoyer	Magaziner
Carey	Garamendi	Levin	Carter (LA)	Huffman	McClintock
Carson	Garbarino	Liccardo	Ciscomani	Huizenga	Messmer
Carter (GA)	Garcia (CA)	Lieu	Cleaver	Hunt	Miller-Meeks
Carter (TX)	Garcia (IL)	Lofgren	Cloud	Ivey	Mullin
Castar	Garcia (TX)	Loudermilk	DesJarlais	Jackson (IL)	Pettersen
Case	Gill (TX)	Lucas	Dexter	Joyce (OH)	Schrier
Casten	Gillen	Luna	Downing	Kamlager-Dove	Sherrill
Castor (FL)	Gimenez	Luttrell	Edwards	Keating	Swalwell
Castro (TX)	Golden (ME)	Lynch	Gomez	LaMalfa	Webster (FL)
Cherifius-	Goldman (NY)	Mace	Gooden	Landsman	Wilson (FL)
McCormick	Goldman (TX)	Mackenzie	Gottheimer	Larson (CT)	
Chu	Gonzales, Tony	Malliotakis	□ 1849		
Cisneros	Gonzalez, V.	Maloy	Messrs. BIGGS of Arizona, BURCHETT, and Ms. BOEBERT	changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”	
Clark (MA)	Goodlander	Mann	So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.		
Clarke (NY)	Graves	Mannion	The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.		
Cline	Gray	Mast	A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.		
Clyburn	Green (TN)	Matsui	Stated for:		
Clyde	Green, Al (TX)	McBath	Mr. BELL. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 36.		
Cohen	Greene (GA)	McBride	Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 36, H.R. 692.		
Cole	Griffith	McCaul	Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 36.		
Collins	Grothman	McClain	Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 36.		
Comer	Guest	McClain Delaney			
Conaway	Guthrie	McClellan			
Connolly	Hageman	McCullom			
Correa	Hamadeh (AZ)	McCormick			
Costa	Harder (CA)	McDonald Rivet			
Courtney	Haridopolos	McDowell			
Craig	Harrigan	McGarvey			
Crank	Harris (MD)	McGovern			
Crawford	Harris (NC)	McGuire			
Crenshaw	Harshbarger	McIver			
Crockett	Hayes	Meeks			
Crow	Hern (OK)	Menendez			
Cuellar	Higgins (LA)	Meng			
Davids (KS)	Hill (AR)	Meuser			
Davidson	Himes	Mfume			
Davis (IL)	Hinson	Miller (IL)			
Davis (NC)	Horsford	Miller (OH)			

PROTECT SMALL BUSINESSES
FROM EXCESSIVE PAPERWORK
ACT OF 2025

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 736) to amend title 31, United States Code, to modify the deadline for filing beneficial ownership information reports for reporting companies formed or registered before January 1, 2024, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 408, nays 0, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 37]

YEAS—408

Adams	Clyde	Fulcher	Kelly (MS)	Moran	Simon	Simon
Aderholt	Cohen	Garamendi	Kelly (PA)	Morelle	Simpson	Simpson
Aguilar	Cole	Garbarino	Kennedy (NY)	Morrison	Smith (MO)	Smith (NE)
Alford	Collins	Garcia (IL)	Kennedy (UT)	Moskowitz	Smith (NE)	Smith (NJ)
Allen	Comer	Garcia (TX)	Khanna	Moulton	Smith (NJ)	Smith (WA)
Amo	Conaway	Gill (TX)	Kiggans (VA)	Mrvan	Smith (WA)	Smucker
Amodei (NV)	Connolly	Gillen	Kiley (CA)	Murphy	Sorensen	Sorensen
Ansari	Correa	Gimenez	Kim	Nadler	Neal	Soto
Arrington	Costa	Golden (ME)	Krishnamoorthi	Neguse	Spartz	Spartz
Auchincloss	Courtney	Goldman (NY)	Kustoff	Nehls	Stansbury	Stansbury
Babin	Craig	Goldman (TX)	LaHood	Newhouse	Stanton	Stanton
Bacon	Crane	Gonzales, Tony	LaLota	Norcross	Stauber	Stauber
Baird	Crank	Gonzalez, V.	Langworthy	Norman	Stefanik	Stefanik
Balderson	Crawford	Gooden	Larsen (WA)	Nunn (IA)	Steil	Steil
Balint	Crenshaw	Goodlander	Latimer	Obernolte	Steube	Steube
Barragán	Crockett	Gosar	Latta	Ocasio-Cortez	Stevens	Stevens
Barrett	Crow	Graves	Lawler	Ogles	Strickland	Strickland
Baumgartner	Cuellar	Gray	Lee (FL)	Olszewski	Strong	Strong
Bean (FL)	Davids (KS)	Green (TN)	Lee (NV)	Omar	Stutzman	Stutzman
Beatty	Davidson	Green, Al (TX)	Lee (PA)	Onder	Subramanyam	Subramanyam
Begin	Davis (IL)	Greene (GA)	Letlow	Owens	Suozzi	Suozzi
Bell	Davis (NC)	Griffith	Lewin	Pallone	Sykes	Sykes
Bentz	De La Cruz	Grothman	Liccardo	Palmer	Takano	Takano
Bera	Dean (PA)	Guest	Arrington	Panetta	Taylor	Taylor
Bergman	DeGette	Guthrie	Auchincloss	Pappas	Tenney	Tenney
Beyer	DeLauro	Hageman	Babin	Pelosi	Thanedar	Thanedar
Bice	DelBene	Hamadeh (AZ)	Balderson	Perez	Thompson (CA)	Thompson (CA)
Biggs (AZ)	Deluzio	Harder (CA)	Balint	Luna	Thompson (MS)	Thompson (MS)
Biggs (SC)	DeSaulnier	Haridopolos	Barragán	Luttrell	Thompson (PA)	Thompson (PA)
Bilirakis	Dexter	Harrigan	Barrett	Lynch	Tiffani	Tiffani
Bishop	Diaz-Balart	Harris (MD)	Baumgartner	Mackenzie	Timmons	Timmons
Boebert	Dingell	Harris (NC)	Bean (FL)	Magaziner	Pocan	Pocan
Bonamici	Doggett	Harshbarger	Beatty	Malliotakis	Pou	Pou
Bost	Donalds	Hayes	Begin	Maloy	Pressley	Pressley
Boyle (PA)	Downing	Hern (OK)	Bell	Mann	Quigley	Quigley
Brecheen	Dunn (FL)	Higgins (LA)	Bentz	Mannion	Ramirez	Ramirez
Bresnahan	Elfreth	Hill (AR)	Bera	Massie	Randall	Randall
Brown	Ellizay	Himes	Bergman	Mast	Raskin	Raskin
Brownley	Emmer	Hinson	Beyer	Matsui	Reschenthaler	Reschenthaler
Buchanan	Escobar	Horsford	Carter (GA)	McBath	Riley (NY)	Riley (NY)
Budzinski	Espaiatl	Houchin	Carter (TX)	McClain	Rivas	Rivas
Burchett	Estes	Houlihan	Castor (FL)	McClain Delaney	Rogers (AL)	Rogers (AL)
Burlison	Evans (CO)	Hoyer	Castro (TX)	McClellan	Rogers (KY)	Rogers (KY)
Bynum	Evans (PA)	Hoyle (OR)	Chesterfield	McClellan	Rose	Rose
Calvert	Ezell	Hudson	Chesnut	McCormick	Rutherford	Rutherford
Cammack	Fallon	Huffman	Chesnut	McCollum	Ross	Ross
Carbalaj	Fedorchak	Hurd (CO)	Chesnut	McCollum	Rouzer	Rouzer
Carey	Feenstra	Issa	Chesnut	McCormick	Roy	Roy
Carson	Fields	Ivey	Chesnut	McDonald Rivet	Ruiz	Ruiz
Carter (GA)	Figures	Jack	Chesnut	McDowell	Rulli	Rulli
Carter (TX)	Finstad	Jackson (IL)	Chesnut	McGarvey	Russell	Russell
Casar	Fischbach	Jackson (TX)	Chesnut	McGovern	Rutherford	Rutherford
Case	Fitzgerald	Jacobs	Chesnut	McGuire	Ryan	Ryan
Casten	Fitzpatrick	James	Chesnut	McGuire	Salazar	Salazar
Castor (FL)	Fleischmann	Jayapal	Chesnut	McIver	Salinas	Salinas
Castro (TX)	Fletcher	Jeffries	Chesnut	Mills	Meeks	Meeks
Cherilus-	Flood	Johnson (GA)	Chesnut	Moorlanaar	Menendez	Menendez
McCormick	Fong	Johnson (LA)	Chesnut	Moore (AL)	Scalise	Scalise
Chu	Foster	Johnson (SD)	Chesnut	Moore (NC)	Meng	Meng
Cisneros	Foushee	Johnson (TX)	Chesnut	Moore (UT)	Meuser	Meuser
Clark (MA)	Foxx	Jordan	Chesnut	Moore (WI)	Mfume	Mfume
Clarke (NY)	Frankel, Lois	Joyce (PA)	Chesnut	Moore (WV)	Miller (IL)	Miller (IL)
Cleaver	Franklin, Scott	Kammlager-Dove	Chesnut	Moore (WV)	Miller (OH)	Miller (OH)
Cline	Friedman	Kaptur	Chesnut	Moore (WV)	Schreiber	Schreiber
Cloud	Frost	Kean	Chesnut	Moore (WV)	Schweikert	Schweikert
Clyburn	Fry	Kelly (IL)	Chesnut	Moore (WV)	Mills	Mills

NOT VOTING—25

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1856

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 36 and YEA on Roll Call No. 37.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, for personal reasons, I was unable to make votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 36 and YEA on Roll Call No. 37.

□ 1900

HONORING THE LIFE OF LILA CAY WILLIAMS CRITZ

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of Lila Cay Williams Critz who unfortunately passed away last week at the age of 89.

Mrs. Critz graduated from Leon High School in Tallahassee, Florida, and then attended Duke University where she received her B.A. in history and met her husband, Dale Critz. Mr. and Mrs. Critz then moved to Savannah, Georgia, where she played an integral part in the community by devoting herself to civic and community organizations.

She was a member of the Junior League of Savannah, a volunteer for the Historic Savannah Foundation, and a board member and president of the Telfair Academy which she led through periods of tremendous growth. Mrs. Critz, a woman of strong faith, was a dedicated communicant of Christ Church Episcopal for over 50 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Critz were married for 66 years. Their partnership extended beyond family and business to adventurous hobbies including hunting and fishing.

Mrs. Critz is survived by her son, Dale Jr., and daughter, Lila; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; her sister and brother; and three nephews. She will always be remembered as a loving wife, mother, and grandmother.

CHECKS AND BALANCES OF THE ADMINISTRATION

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share the abject frustration constituents of northwest Indiana have expressed due to the administration's incoherent and overreaching executive orders that create unnecessary confusion in their failed attempts to improve government efficiencies.

Is it efficient when individuals, small businesses, municipalities, and non-profit organizations that provide benefits to seniors, veterans, and children are frozen without guidance?

Is it efficient when a Federal employee hired for 20 years, living in my district, is told to report back to an office in D.C. that never existed?

Is it efficient when officials immediately end public transit services that seniors rely upon and when community health centers that provide essential services to vulnerable populations can't access government websites? These actions are creating inefficiencies and wasting taxpayer dollars.

As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I encourage the administration to look forward and put their proposals in their upcoming budget requests. Let's begin the constitutional process and real negotiations with checks and balances to benefit the American people.

EMERGENCY BORDER CONTROL RESOLUTION

(Mr. HARRIS of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HARRIS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Emergency Border Control Resolution to kick-start the resolution process.

As we stand here today, negotiations have stalled in the House. We all know this. We are at a crossroads in this reconciliation process, and it is time for the House and Senate to quickly pass a border funding bill with a debt ceiling increase so President Trump can deliver on his promises to the American people and reassure the financial markets.

The legislation I just introduced is a budget that contains \$200 billion in new funding for President Trump to secure our southern border, fund immigration enforcement, and rebuild America's defenses.

This increased spending is paired with \$486 billion in cuts to Biden's failed and wasteful spending. These cuts will result in a \$286 billion real deficit reduction over 10 years.

The Emergency Border Control Resolution is the first step in the Freedom Caucus' 218 strategy to successfully implement the President's America First agenda.

GREAT LAKES GATEWAYS

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate and protect the largest system of freshwater on Earth: The Great Lakes. I will be introducing the bipartisan Great Lakes Gateways Network Act of 2025, alongside my talented colleague, DAVID JOYCE of Ohio.

The Great Lakes have been declared a national treasure by executive order in 2004. The Great Lakes undergird America's industrial and agricultural heartland and encompass terrestrial and aquatic wildlife, including two

globally important migratory bird flyways.

We are home to 20 national wildlife refuges; 7 national parks; America's longest coast and lakeshores, monuments, and memorials; 6 national forests; many State parks; wildlife management areas; and trail systems. These assets generate annually over \$52 billion in economic activity.

The Great Lakes Gateway Network Act of 2025 will help us conserve, restore, and interpret our precious history by catalyzing numerous public and private investments in the linked network of gateway sites.

Mr. Speaker, it is long overdue for the northwest territory and our Great Lakes to shine a light on our region's magnificence and America's freshwater kingdom.

USAID'S IMPACT ON HAITI

(Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the illegal dismantling of USAID and its detrimental effects on Haiti.

Not only is Haiti currently dealing with massive gang violence that has killed thousands of people and displaced millions of people, it is a country also on the verge of famine. The World Food Programme projects that they will run out of food assistance to Haiti in March due to this aid freeze.

This will fuel the gangs who recruit starving children to join them, worsen the already dire humanitarian crisis, and cause thousands more to flee the nation, meaning mass migration to the United States.

Make no mistake, gutting USAID means gutting regional security. It will also directly harm my constituents. The Port of Palm Beach exports \$160 million in food to the Caribbean alone, much of which is distributed by USAID and their partners. The farmers and dockworkers in my district will directly lose out on all critical business.

I urge my colleagues to stand for USAID, the backbone of our national security, and remember either we feed them now or we will end up fighting them later.

SUPPORTING AID TO FLORIDA, TEXAS, AND CALIFORNIA

(Mr. LATIMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I am a proud New Yorker, and today I speak as a proud American. An American tragedy has played out in California, and those who have lost their homes and their lives are first and foremost Americans.

This Nation has an obligation to help all of our fellow citizens. For those who claim America first, its is not America first except for California, America

first except for Massachusetts or New York. We owe a debt to help our fellow Americans in California without political considerations or restrictions.

When a hurricane tears through Florida, do we say let's see the Governor's plans to harden infrastructure before we help Floridians? Do we say let's see what local Florida zoning laws allow for buildings near the coast before we grant aid? When tornadoes devastate Texas, do we say how do they make schools less vulnerable before we give Texans assistance?

When Floridians are suffering, I see Americans. When Texans are suffering, I see Americans. As a New Yorker, I support aid to Florida, Texas, and California when they need it without politics.

IRON SHARPENS IRON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WIED). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call out the cowards who think they can prey on women and get away with it. Today, I am going scorched Earth. Let the bridges I burn this evening light our way forward.

As in many areas, God's Word has given me wisdom, God's love has shown me the light, and God's grace has given me the strength to be here today. God placed this burden on my path not to crush me but to ignite something within me—a calling, a purpose, a responsibility, and courage, which I am using in spades today.

□ 1915

The purpose of my speech tonight is to make sure these women will never be forgotten and the men who hurt them will never be allowed to get away with it or hide again.

God uses imperfect people to carry out his perfect plans. I ask God to fill me up, to be his vessel, and to use me for his purpose tonight. I ask for his protection as I expose the Devil's hand today.

In Jeremiah 6:16, it says when we are at a crossroads, that we are to look at the ancient paths, look for the right way, and walk on it.

When I was saved 5 years ago in church, in May of 2019, it was a Saturday night, and I was there: I was at a crossroads in life.

When I heard this sermon, with my child next to me, he put his arm

around me, and he said: Mommy, it is going to be okay. We are going to be okay.

I know in God's faith, in his wisdom, when I listen, he shows us his way. Tonight, it is God who is showing me the right path to take, because this is about truth. This is about unveiling evil that is in the State of South Carolina.

I want to quote Martin Luther King tonight who said: The time is always right to do what is right.

What I am doing tonight, I know in my heart of hearts, is right.

I am going to take this Bible a friend gave to me. I am going to place my hand on this Bible.

I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God.

Today, I am going to free myself from the monster who broke me. Today, I am going to free other women who fell prey to this same man. Today, I will free other women further from a group of men who committed the most evil acts against them.

I want every woman and girl to know in the country: You have a friend and you have a sister in me, and I will fight like hell for you every day of the week.

We must never tolerate abusers masquerading as men of character. Abuse doesn't discriminate. Abuse doesn't care if you are a Republican or if you are a Democrat. Abuse doesn't care who you are or where you come from or how strong you are or what title you hold.

I am living proof that even as a Member of Congress, I found myself face-to-face with the darkest corners of humanity. You really think you know someone until you don't.

In November of 2023, I accidentally uncovered some of the most heinous crimes against women imaginable. We are talking about rape, nonconsensual photos, nonconsensual videos of women and underage girls, and the premeditated, calculated exploitation of women and girls in my district.

Today, you will hear about the depraved men behind these gutless and evil acts. These men didn't just harm their victims. They recorded their depravity as if it were a badge of honor.

When I uncovered evidence of rape, the illegal filming of women, and sex trafficking, I didn't just see victims. I saw a system that failed to protect them.

I saw criminals who thought they could get away with it because no one had the guts, no one had the courage, and no one had the bravery to hold them accountable because we are filled with cowards.

I will burn this system to the ground if I have to.

These men aren't just criminals; they are predators. You can see the names and the faces of these predators on this board to my right tonight.

These predators are not untouchable. These predators are not invisible. These predators are not invincible.

Today, their names will be tied to their crimes and their cowardice forever.

Let me say their names for the RECORD in alphabetical order. Eric Bowman of Sullivan's Island, South Carolina; Patrick Bryant of Mt. Pleasant and Isle of Palms, South Carolina, who also goes by Brendan Patrick Bryant; John Osborne of Charleston, South Carolina; and Brian Musgrave of Fort Mill, South Carolina.

Let me be loud and clear. I would never allow any woman or underage girl anywhere near any of you. When you incapacitate women, it is against the law. When you sexually assault women, it is called rape. If you film women naked without their knowledge, without their permission, and without their consent, it is called voyeurism, and it makes you a Peeping Tom. It is illegal.

When you and your business partners—like these, all business partners—when you and your business partners pay each other and you sexually abuse women, it is called sex trafficking, and it is against the law. It by definition makes you a sex trafficker.

Witness intimidation is also illegal.

To Eric Bowman, Patrick Bryant, Brian Musgrave, and John Osborne: You have bought yourself a one-way ticket to hell. It is nonstop, there are no connections, so I and all of your victims can watch you rot for an eternity. Today is about justice.

Truth has a way of rising no matter how deeply you try to bury it. Tonight is about truth, the painful, the cold, the hard truth.

On the night of October 30, 2023, I received a text message with screenshots from a friend of mine in South Carolina. It showed my then-fiance, Patrick Bryant, active on a dating app.

In South Carolina, politics is a blood sport. I thought this was your usual, run-of-the-mill political game. I thought it was a joke.

When I confronted Patrick Bryant 4 days later, on November 3, the first thing he did was take his phone and put it in a safe and lock it, a safe identical to this one. It was so confusing. I didn't understand why would someone put their cell phone in a safe and lock it.

After more women came forward, I realized this was not for laughs. Soon after, I learned the dating app was the very least of my worries. Let me make clear: I don't care that he was on a dating app.

Two days later, Patrick Bryant put my thumbprint on his phone, one just like this. He put my thumbprint on his phone. He also gave me the four-digit code to his safe.

The night that I was given legal access to his phone, I opened it for the first time. What I discovered shocked me to my core. One of the first videos I saw was of a woman, she was incapacitated and she was being raped. I found some photos of what appeared to be a teenager undressed, in the kind of underwear a child would wear. To me,

the facial expression of this young woman, young girl, teenager, looked scared and nervous.

I saw another video of another woman who was undressed, clearly on a camera, unaware she was being filmed. She was slender, and she had long brown hair. I turned up the volume to hear if there was audio. I heard my voice. I zoomed in on the video, and that woman was me.

My entire body was paralyzed, and I couldn't move. Were my feet on the floor? Was I breathing? I have no idea. I could feel pain shooting out of my heart, out of my chest. I dropped straight down to the floor like I was in a nosedive. The pain running through my veins wouldn't stop. Time was suspended for a moment.

This monster stole my body. It felt like I had been raped. He stole my body without my permission, without my knowledge, and without my consent.

This hidden camera that I found was at a property owned by Patrick Bryant and his business partner Brian Musgrave. Here is a similar camera, bought on Amazon, something this small, that can violate so many to such a heinous degree.

I found an app where the file of at least one of the hidden cameras I discovered was stored. I discovered on this app, for this tiny little camera, there were 10,633 videos on it. Let me repeat. Just one camera I found had 10,633 videos on it.

Patrick Bryant must have forgotten that in my younger days, in my youth, I used to be a computer programmer. I know enough about technology.

I found more photos, this time of female employees. I found photos of wives of male employees, photos of girlfriends and women who very clearly didn't know their private parts were being filmed and photographed.

I found file after file after file.

Patrick Bryant had upskirt photos of one particular victim, a wife of a male employee who was also one of his best friends. He took upskirt photos of his employee's wife spanning at least 8 years. He even took upskirt photos of her on their family vacations. I know she had no idea these photos were being taken because of the way that they were taken. There is no way that she knew about it.

I found about a dozen photos in Patrick Bryant's trash bin of underage girls that he deleted in the hours after he gave me access to his phone. I recognized three of the underage girls as daughters of some of his business partners, some of them in bikinis.

If you are a 50-year-old man and you have teenage girls in bikinis on your phone and it is okay, why would you delete them in the hours after your fiancee got access to your phone? If there is nothing wrong with it, why would these 12-plus photos of these underage girls be in your trash bin? What are you to worry about if there is nothing going on?

Three of the teenage girls I saw in this trash bin of business partners were

in bikinis. One of these jarring photos of a child of one of his business partners was an underage girl, fully clothed, but her legs were spread open, unaware she was being photographed.

□ 1930

Patrick Bryant took this photo from his penis area.

In my accidental discovery, I found multiple devices used by him to record women without their knowledge, and that is before I get to what I uncovered with Patrick Bryant and his business partners.

The weekend I was given access to Patrick Bryant's phone, I found evidence that he got a second mobile device. I documented it.

Patrick Bryant couldn't transfer these files off his device fast enough. I discovered he was transferring terabytes of data onto another device. I documented it.

Patrick Bryant would soon replace his cell phone with a new one. I documented that, too. He forgets that I used to be a computer programmer.

None of this is conjecture. These are not allegations. These are facts. It is documented, sometimes with metadata. I knew how to get that, too.

This is what I found; this is what I saw; and this is what I accidentally discovered.

As you should know by now, I keep all the receipts.

In addition to what I documented, I personally identified—I personally identified—almost a dozen victims. I found some witnesses, and I found more than enough probable cause and then some.

If I found this many victims with this little effort, why—why?—are they still on the streets of South Carolina today?

I am just one person. Imagine how many victims there truly are tonight, and they don't even know that they are victims of this cabal of rapists, this cabal of sex traffickers, this cabal of Peeping Toms.

Exactly 7 days later, after I got access to Patrick Bryant's phone, I was under extreme duress. I found more photos. I found more videos.

On my last night with Patrick Bryant, he physically assaulted me. On the morning of November 13, I fled my home, and I went into hiding. I, as a Member of Congress, fled my home, and I went into hiding. It would be the first of four moves that I made last year.

I still have the mark that Patrick Bryant made on me the night that he assaulted me. Rather than see this mark as a scar, I see this mark of a free woman, free from a monster. I will wear this mark that he made on me for the rest of my life as a badge of honor.

To the friends who took me in, I want to say thank you. You took care of me when I had nowhere to go. You took care of me and my kids.

Last year, I had to tell a woman that she had been raped, and she didn't even know it. She didn't know it. She had no

idea because she was incapacitated at the time of the rape. I knew she was raped because I accidentally found the video of her being raped. I found photos and video of her assault on Patrick Bryant's phone.

One of Patrick Bryant's business associates, John Osborne, sexually assaulted her at the home of Eric Bowman. Patrick Bryant and Eric Bowman both had their phones out like this as she was being assaulted, as she was being raped. The two of them—three of them business partners—the two of them had their phones out just like this, filming her as she was being raped, and she was completely laid out. There was no movement. There was no life. I couldn't even tell if this young woman was alive.

John Osborne today—John Osborne, I want you to hear this in your omission as you are frantically texting people today: I cannot unsee what you did to this young woman, and you will not—you will not—get away with it. None of you will because tonight is about justice for me, and tonight is about justice for all of the women that you all raped, that you all filmed, that you all photographed, and that you all abused for years.

I would later learn that these men, the three of them, Patrick Bryant, Eric Bowman, and John Osborne, planned her rape. It was premeditated.

Eric Bowman knew there were children in the home at the time of the rape, and he decided to orchestrate it anyway.

But that is not the only rape I uncovered at Eric Bowman's home. In a second video, Patrick Bryant can be seen breaking into a room, his pants undone, ready to rape a different incapacitated woman, again laid out. There was no life. There was no movement. I couldn't tell if she was alive.

Eric Bowman, his business partner, filmed it.

When I informed my children we were urgently fleeing our home as if our lives depended on it, my children asked me if Patrick Bryant had ever raped me. I don't know how children know the inherent spirit of humanity, but my kids knew something I did not already know. Children have a way of knowing evil in others when we don't.

In searching for victims over the last year, I met other women who were raped or sexually assaulted by some of these men. The other assaults I uncovered over the last year span over a decade, almost 20 years. In talking to these victims, there is a clear pattern of behavior. Women were incapacitated; they were raped; and someone filmed it.

One night in 2022, I found myself at a property owned by Patrick Bryant and Brian Musgrave on the Isle of Palms in South Carolina. Business partners Patrick Bryant and Eric Bowman were both there. I was served two small vodka sodas, like this glass right here, two small vodka sodas like anyone would have at their neighborhood restaurant.

A short time later, I blacked out. I have never blacked out after having a vodka soda or any adult beverage ever in my life. It has never happened. But I know who has: the women raped on those tapes that I saw, the women raped that I spoke to over the course of the last year. The stories of these women were all too familiar. Now I know why.

My memories of that night are just flashes in and out of the dark, flashes in and out of the night. I was raped that night.

Was it Patrick Bryant? I don't know, but I was raped.

I believe that they purposely incapacitated me.

Was anyone else there? Was it filmed? Was it sold on the dark web? I have no idea, but I know what these men do to their victims.

I learned firsthand about the weaponization of government going through this trauma because I met it head-on. I fought in silence, and it was one of the hardest things I have ever had to do.

In October, Eric Bowman tried to intimidate me, and he tried to silence me, and the State of South Carolina failed to take it seriously as witness intimidation.

During the last year, I turned everything over to law enforcement and then some. I was told I, as a victim, would be investigated. Investigated for what? I am a victim here. I am turning in all of this evidence to you, and now you say: Victims, you are a victim of rape, you are a victim of being drugged, you are a victim of a Peeping Tom and voyeurs, and yet we are going to investigate you.

That is what the State told me.

During the last year, more than once, I was told I could be arrested. Arrested for what?

These types of threats are also a way to intimidate victims, instilling fear so victims hide in the shadows, so victims don't come forward, so victims don't ask for complaints to be filed, so there is no investigation because you strike holy fear into victims, or you tell them there is nothing you can do. You tell them they have no value.

I brought handcuffs with me today. If anyone would like to arrest me for standing up for women, here are my wrists. Arrest me. Take me to jail because I am 100 percent guilty of turning over evidence of Peeping Toms, of turning over evidence of rape, of turning over evidence of voyeurism, of turning over evidence of sex trafficking, and, who knows, probably a heck of a lot more, and more crimes I don't have time to get into tonight.

I am 100 percent guilty of advocating for justice despite every effort to silence me.

There is a silent battle raging every single day. It is not a problem confined to one race. It is not a problem confined to one religion. It is not a problem confined to one socioeconomic class. It is not someone else's problem. It is our problem.

We must face domestic violence, sexual assault, rape, and sex trafficking with courage; we must face it with clarity; and we must face it with compassion. We must also face it with hardcore justice.

There is no room for those who think their strength is in intimidating and harming or threatening others. True strength lies in honor; it lies in respect; and it lies in the truth. Real men are protectors; they are not predators.

South Carolina's chief law enforcement officer, Attorney General Alan Wilson, stated 2 weeks ago tonight that he will let his "record" speak for itself.

Attorney General Alan Wilson, be careful what you wish for because your record speaks loud and clear. Women who come forward in your system are treated like criminals—under your leadership, in your system, and on your watch.

Attorney General Alan Wilson, you know there were deliberate delays in an investigation in what I turned over, 228 days of delay, and you know this, 228 days of delay. That is 7 months, 2 weeks, and 4 days of delay to investigate.

Once again, today, you are kicking the can down the road like you always do—you are known for it—more days, more weeks, and more delay.

Did the attorney general contact the Department of Social Services when the State was told about a rape that happened in a home with children when children were at home? No, he didn't.

Did South Carolina's attorney general have any of these predators indicted after being provided clear, cut-and-dry evidence, including video, photos, and witnesses? No, he did not.

When the attorney of a victim asked to speak to the attorney general, Alan Wilson, directly, he told the attorney not to send him any information, not to send him any documents.

Did the State accept additional physical evidence from me late last year when I stumbled upon it? No, they did not.

I was also told my domestic violence incident would not be investigated.

In your system, Attorney General Alan Wilson, women who come forward are threatened with investigation like I was. In your system, women who come forward are threatened with arrest like I was.

□ 1945

While the law is explicit in protecting victims, in your system, you don't follow the law. I waited 320 days before receiving a victim's rights advocate and only because I was persistent.

I was given a victim's rights advocate 10 months, 2 weeks, and 6 days later—10 months—10½ months, the State waited to give me a victim's rights advocate.

What is wrong with you people?

So let me remind you, Mr. Attorney General: You have one job, and it is to follow the law.

South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson, you are not a real man

because real men—real men—protect women.

I have no respect for anyone who treats women and victims the way you do.

I will stand up and stand in the way of anyone who will cause harm and abuse, and you are one of them. You have turned a blind eye to women and girls for the last 15 years. I don't have the luxury of looking away.

The larger emotional travesty for the victims here, which overshadows all of these evil acts, is the fact the State has refused to do its job and put these predators behind bars, in effect telling these victims: They have no value.

Justice delayed is justice denied. The delays have been long enough.

My outrage over your broken system and my passion to call it out and fix it isn't personal. I have an ethical and a moral obligation to protect each and every one of my constituents, even if it is from someone I know personally.

To the victims tonight, I want you to know you have value, and you, as a victim, can still have victory after tonight.

To those concerned about false accusation—and there will be some of you out there—yes, fake victims exist, and they do real consequential harm to real victims. But the existence of a few frauds should not and cannot be an excuse to ignore the desperate cries of those who suffer in silence.

Justice demands discernment, not denial.

This isn't a story about bitter ex-girlfriends because some of you will say that, too. That is not true.

This isn't a story about consensual sex tapes, there are plenty of those. I don't care what two consenting adults do. That is the definition of freedom.

This is a story about predators who hunt women for sport. This is a story about rapists. This is a story about sex traffickers. This is a story about Peeping Toms and voyeurs who have never been called to account or held responsible for their heinous crimes against women.

The daughter of Ethel Lance, a victim of the 2015 Mother Emanuel shooting, said to her mom's killer: I forgive you.

If she can do it, I can, too.

Ethel, thank you for being a beacon of forgiveness for Christians out there in the world to know forgiveness can happen.

I don't want to forgive. I don't want to, but I know that, as a woman of faith, I have to, but, also, the Bible reminds us that forgiveness does not forfeit justice.

In Romans 12:19, it says: "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written: 'Vengeance is mine, and I will repay, says the Lord.'"

Today, we are getting justice. As a woman of faith, I draw strength from the teachings of Jesus Christ, and Christ confronted injustice wherever he saw it.

I will not stand silently by while abuse is excused, while it is hidden, and while it is ignored. I will fight to protect victims. I will fight to hold abusers accountable. And I will fight to ensure every woman and child has the safety and security they deserve.

As Gisele Pelicot said: "Shame must change sides."

I no longer live in the shadows. I no longer live in shame. I live in the light. So thank you, Gisele, for being fearless in fighting for your justice.

I want to recognize J.K. Rowling for her resilience in speaking out for women and girls. She, her message, has kept me pushing forward on days when I didn't think I had anything left. There are an untold number of groups working around the clock to support women, I thank you, too.

I spent countless hours working on legislation to protect women and girls since this deeply traumatic event.

I want to thank my staff, who are here and who are watching, for working on this legislation. They have worked incredibly hard to deliver.

Women have rights. Women have the right to privacy. We have the right not to be filmed. We have the right not to be raped. We have the right not to be intimidated and harassed. We have the right to feel safe and secure.

There is more work to be done yet, but to my staff and to my team: You are making an enormous difference for women and girls everywhere. We have filed over a dozen bills in the last 14 months since this has happened.

My bill, the Sue VOYEURS Act, creates a civil right of action for victims of voyeurism.

The Stop VOYEURS Act expands a very narrow criminal prohibition against video voyeurism at the Federal level.

H.R. 7567 addresses deepfakes.

The Violence Against Women by Illegal Aliens Act deports rapists and pedophiles.

The Safe Shelters Act prohibits sex offenders from entering or using the services of emergency shelters.

The Rape Shield Enhancement Act is to protect the women who are raped and to protect their privacy.

My bill, the Stop the Invasion of Women's Spaces Act, defunds any entity who allows an individual to use a single-sex facility that does not correspond with their biological sex.

The Protecting Women's Private Spaces Act prohibits people from using single-sex facilities on Federal property other than those corresponding with their biological gender.

The Prison Rape Prevention Act ensures and requires inmates to be housed based on their biological sex so that women can't be raped by a man who thinks he is a woman.

The VANISH Act addresses revenge porn.

H.R. 8180 increases the civil penalty for revenge porn.

H.R. 1579 prohibits Members and others from using single-sex facilities

other than those corresponding with their gender.

It is not just Federal law, but State law needs to be addressed, too.

In South Carolina, State law 16-17-470 makes voyeurism and Peeping Tom first offenses a misdemeanor, not a felony. It is a couple-hundred-dollar fine and a few years in jail if—if—they prosecute you, and if they get a conviction on that prosecution, which they don't want to prosecute, by the way.

If you would like to work on legislation with us, our office is open. You can go to mace.house.gov/women, and we will work with you.

Some will ask why am I speaking out?

I was horrified about what I uncovered and cannot stand silent and do nothing about it. Being quiet is not in my DNA, especially when I see wrongdoing.

The probability these predators are continuing their abuse and crimes against women right now as I speak, as I give this speech right now, is very high. And if I found this many victims with this little effort, imagine how many victims are out there today. And so we will put up our hotline.

If you call 843-212-7048, that is our hotline. If you are a victim, let us know. We will help you.

But there are so many victims who may not even know they are victims yet.

I am sounding the alarm on predators who are still roaming the streets of South Carolina, and our chief law enforcement officer, Attorney General Alan Wilson, knows it.

You don't wake up one day and say your first crime of your life, ever, is to premeditate a rape with you and your business partners, with your kids at home, and you film it. Who knows what else they have done over the years?

To the men watching: Their next victim could be your daughter, your sister, your wife.

To the women watching tonight: Their next victim could be you.

I feel duty bound to protect these women and girls with every ounce of my being. I am one of you. We are no different. We are cut from the same cloth, victimized by the same men, and I am here for you.

Do I trust South Carolina's attorney general to bring these women justice? No. I do not.

Even today, they are saying I don't know how the law works, as they condescendingly talk down to a victim.

Let me advise you, Mr. Attorney General: If you go to your website, it is your duty to prosecute rape and sexual assault and sex trafficking, which you bragged about protecting women and girls for the last 15 years. You have done nothing about it. And you refused to act when you were given, on a silver platter, a plate of evidence—videos, photos, witnesses, victims of this, and you turn the other cheek.

If Alan Wilson won't do his job as attorney general, I will do it for him. I

am duty bound to protect and find every single female victim out there, and I will do it. I will do it single-handedly if I have to.

For too long, women have been told that speaking out against abuse is unbecoming, that it diminishes us. But silence is what diminishes us, and strength comes from shining light on a darkness.

This is an incredibly difficult task. I have been attacked for standing up for women, for our dignity, for our safety, and for our rights.

Just a few weeks ago, I was physically attacked by a pro-trans man for it, too.

I will take all of the arrows and all of the attacks if it means I am taking these attacks for each and every one of you. I am doing this today because we can't delay justice—justice victims like myself need to move forward.

I have lived in fear. I have lived in pain. I have lived in agony, but, after today, I will live free.

If you are a woman who has visited the home of Eric Bowman on Sullivan's Island, South Carolina; if you are a woman who has visited the properties owned by Patrick Bryant and Brian Musgrave on Isle of Palms, South Carolina; if you are a female employee of Patrick Bryant; if you are the wife of a male employee who works for him at any one of his companies headquartered in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina; if you are an underage girl anywhere near Patrick Bryant; if you have been anywhere near Patrick Bryant or Eric Bowman where there has been a cell phone recording device or any recording device or camera; if you believe you may have been drugged or incapacitated, raped, filmed, and photographed without your knowledge, permission, or consent by one or more of these men; or if you believe you may be a victim of the crimes I described today, we set up a hotline for you.

If you will call or text 843-212-7048—when I see a problem, I will do anything to fix it—you can call or text us.

Like so many women, I have suffered tremendous consequences to my physical health. I have been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder. I live looking over my shoulder. I endure sleepless nights. I have a form of vertigo related to my PTSD nightmares, and the adverse health issues linger 14 months after this traumatic event—deeply traumatic event.

I hit rock bottom last year, but as phoenix rose from the ashes, I, too, am coming back to life. My breakdown was my breakthrough, my devastation was my deliverance, and my God was my grace.

I want to thank my children who are watching tonight. I want to thank my family. My mom is here tonight. She is up here. I love you. Thank you.

I want to thank the Medical University of South Carolina for having one of the best sexual abuse trauma centers in the country. You saved my life and countless others, including some of the victims who are here tonight.

To the women behind the scenes who shared their horror stories and who now lurk in the shadows out of real, terrifying fear about coming forward, I want to thank you, too, for your quiet courage. You know who you are, and you inspired me. You inspired me to keep going.

Today, as I am standing here, not just as a Member of Congress but as a woman and as a survivor, fighting as hard—as hard as I can for other survivors, I am going to put this sticker on. My staff made it for me tonight, and it says in bold letters: Survivor.

I am going to ask this sticker—we have many guests tonight, including some victims. I am going to ask those who are here on the floor tonight to put this sticker on and the lapel pins we made tonight that say: Survivor.

I will be the loudest voice for those forced to stay silent. Living through my trauma and helping other women through theirs, all those victims of crimes we didn't know had been committed—our bodies violated in ways none of us could comprehend.

□ 2000

Today is about justice, and the belief we should do better, and we can do better for every single woman and girl.

I don't want to hear a single excuse about what we can do for women. We can do it, and we can do it now.

To anyone doing business with these men, know who you are doing business with.

You are doing business with rapists. You are doing business with sex traffickers, and you are doing business with Peeping Toms.

Some of the properties where these crimes took place are listed on certain short-term rental sites like Airbnb and VRBO. I say this because there may have been hidden cameras in the properties at which these crimes took place.

Some of the companies these predators are involved with have had or are trying to or might have now government contracts with Federal and State and local governments. The government should not do business with rapists, sex traffickers, and Peeping Toms.

I have many unanswered questions tonight. Were any children endangered? Were any children raped? Were any underage girls victims? Did any children witness rape? Are there still underage children at the physical property where the rapes occurred? How many recordings were taken of women on all these devices by all these men?

I have found several devices. Were the recordings I saw of myself and all these women sold on the dark web? How many women were raped by these men? Who are all the victims of all of these men and will the victims, will these women, ever know?

Had I never found out I was a victim, I would never have known to dig deep to find other victims. To the victims here tonight in the gallery, to the victims watching, my heart bleeds with

yours. We are one. We are the same. We are survivors together, and I will always, always be there for you no matter what.

Today, I stand defiant with my fists in the air to say as loudly and as boldly as I can say: I have the courage, I have the strength, and I have the resilience to take on the challenges of this moment. To the naysayers who are out there, online, on the web and the press today living in my past, I want you to know I don't live there anymore and your lies will never ever break me.

In Genesis 19:26, when Lot and his wife were fleeing Sodom and Gomorrah, God said: Don't look back. Lot's wife looked back. She turned right into dust because she looked back when God said not to.

Today, I am free. Today, I am moving forward and today, I am never looking back.

Let us leave a legacy for our children that they can be proud of, a legacy of courage, a legacy of compassion, and a legacy of unyielding justice. Truth doesn't cause the same fear as spin. Truth is peaceful, even in all of its awful and heinous brutality.

To the victims of these predators, I pray for your protection, I pray for your courage, and I pray for your resilience.

In Ecclesiastes 4, it talks about the strength of a rope, how it is easily not broken. With one strand of a rope, you are weak. You won't survive. Two strands of rope are better than one, but even then, it is not the best. But when you have three strands of a rope, you cannot be broken.

So to the women tonight, the victims of these crimes, to women everywhere, women and girls all across the country, I want you to know you have the courage and you have the bravery necessary. You have the courage required and the voice needed in times like these to hold those accountable for their horrific abuses against you.

Proverbs 27:17 says: Iron sharpens iron as one man sharpens another. I want to thank the citadel for being the iron that sharpened me in my youth.

There is power in the brokenness we feel. Ladies, find your death goddess. Find that death goddess energy and use it. It is hard to explain to others who haven't been in this place, who haven't hit rock bottom, but for those of us that have, this death goddess energy is unmistakable and it is unstoppable.

We don't cower, we don't hide, and we don't shrink. We stand tall, and we rise. We are not destroyed. We say: No more. We fight back. And when we feel defeated, we fight harder. And when we need nourishment, we seek God's wisdom.

Your wound is my wound. Your wound is our wound. Your pain is our pain, and your fear is our fear.

This is who you are, this is your spirit, and this is your superpower. Know I am standing on the battlefield with you. Know I am standing in the trenches with you. Know I am standing in

your fight with you. Know I will always be your iron.

May God bless the women who fell victim to the abuse of these monsters. May God bless the great State of South Carolina. May God bless the United States of America and every single woman and girl out there today.

In my most humble voice, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-390. A letter from the President and Chair, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1517(b); Public Law 97-258, Sept. 13, 1982 (as amended by Public Law 108-447, div. G, title I, Sec. 1401(b)); (118 Stat. 3192); to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-391. A letter from the Director, Public Affairs and Congressional Relations, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, transmitting the Office's 2024 Annual Report, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 14; Feb. 18, 1875, ch. 80, Sec. 1 (as amended by Public Law 106-569, Sec. 1103(c)); (114 Stat. 3031); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-392. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Report to Congress on Children's Mental Health Initiative, FY 2022-2023, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 290ff-4(c)(2); July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title V, Sec. 565(c)(2) (as amended by Public Law 106-310, Sec. 3105(c)); (114 Stat. 1175); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-393. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Report to Congress: Suicide Prevention Resource Center FY 2023-2024; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-394. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Treatment, Recovery, and Workforce Support Grants Final Report, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 290ee-8(j)(2); Public Law 115-271, Sec. 7183(j)(2); (132 Stat. 4070); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-395. A letter from the Executive Director, Office of Information and Communications Technology and Services, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain: Connected Vehicles [Docket No.: 250107-0005] (RIN: 0694-AJ56) received January 15, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-396. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a notification of a federal vacancy and designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-397. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Minimum Standards for Driver's Licenses and Identification Cards Acceptable by Federal Agencies for Official Purposes; Phased Approach for Card-Based Enforcement [Docket No.: TSA-2023-0003] (RIN: 1652-AA77) received January 22, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-398. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act Annual Report to Congress 2024, pursuant to 52 U.S.C. 20307(b); Public Law 99-410, Sec. 105(b) (as amended by Public Law 111-84, Sec. 587(2)); (123 Stat. 2333); to the Committee on House Administration.

EC-399. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's Appendix D submission to the GSA's FY24 Governmentwide Section 508 Assessment, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. 794d(d)(2); Public Law 105-220, title IV, Sec. 408(b); (112 Stat. 1205); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-400. A letter from the Regulations Supervisor, Office of Natural Resources Revenue, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — 2025 Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustments [Docket No.: ONRR-2022-0003; DS63644000 DR2000000.CH7000 256D1113RT] (RIN: 1012-AA37) received February 5, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mrs. FISCHBACH: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 122. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 77) to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for en bloc consideration in resolutions of disapproval for "midnight rules", and for other purposes (Rept. 119-3). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LAHOOD (for himself, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. PANNETTA):

H.R. 1152. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the application of the mailbox rule to documents and payments electronically submitted to the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. HARSHBARGER (for herself, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 1153. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to support rural residency training funding that is equitable for all States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CALVERT (for himself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. LIEU):

H.R. 1154. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to issue guidance with respect to space systems, services, and technology as critical infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS (for herself, Ms. SEWELL, and Mr. KUSTOFF):

H.R. 1155. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to elect to receive certain replacement refunds electronically; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri (for himself, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. MORAN, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. CAREY, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BUCHANAN, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. KUSTOFF, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. ESTES, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. FISCHBACH, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 1156. A bill to amend the CARES Act to extend the statute of limitations for fraud under certain unemployment programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. STEUBE (for himself and Mrs. CAMMACK):

H.R. 1157. A bill to allow individuals to elect to receive contributions to a health savings account in lieu of reduced cost-sharing under health insurance Exchange; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 1158. A bill to provide enhanced authority for the President to enter into agreements with the Government of Ukraine to lend or lease defense articles to that Government to protect civilian populations in Ukraine from Russian military invasion, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. BROWNLEY (for herself, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. WATERS, Ms. TITUS, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Ms. ROSS):

H.R. 1159. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for the eligibility of Transportation Security Administration employees to receive public safety officers death benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. CRENshaw, and Mr. WEBER of Texas):

H.R. 1160. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the treatment of locum tenens physicians and advanced care practitioners as independent contractors to

help alleviate physician shortages, including in underserved areas; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 1161. A bill to authorize the President to enter into negotiations to acquire Greenland and to rename Greenland as "Red, White, and Blueland"; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CRENshaw (for himself, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. SMUCKER, and Ms. PETTERSEN):

H.R. 1162. A bill to facilitate direct primary care arrangements under Medicaid; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FINSTAD (for himself, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. MORAN, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. STAUBER):

H.R. 1163. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to require greater transparency for Federal regulatory decisions that impact small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARCIA of California (for himself, Mr. EDWARDS, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 1164. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to ensure that certain applicants for assistance after a declared major disaster do not receive a notice of denial while the applicant has a pending insurance claim for disaster-related losses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GIMENEZ (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. GREEN of Tennessee):

H.R. 1165. A bill to require the inspection of certain foreign cranes before use at a United States port, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. GIMENEZ (for himself, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. PFLUGER, and Mr. MEUSER):

H.R. 1166. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from procuring certain foreign-made batteries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. GIMENEZ:

H.R. 1167. A bill to prohibit the procurement of solar panels manufactured or assembled in the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. GOODEN (for himself, Mr. BIGGS of Arizona, Mr. GILL of Texas, Ms. MACE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ELLZEEY, Mr. OGLES, Mr. ROSE, and Mr. HARIDOPOLOS):

H.R. 1168. A bill to direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to require the disclosure of violations of Federal law with respect to human trafficking or alien smuggling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas:

H.R. 1169. A bill to exclude certain amounts relating to compensating victims of

the Texas Panhandle fires, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi:

H.R. 1170. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for expedited access to certain military installations of the Department of Defense for Members of Congress and certain Congressional employees; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia (for herself and Ms. STANSBURY):

H.R. 1171. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to include physical therapists and occupational therapists as health professionals for purposes of the annual wellness visit under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MOOLENAAR (for himself, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. HARIDOPOLOS, Mr. RULLI, and Mrs. HARSHBARGER):

H.R. 1172. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to exclude from creditable wages and self-employment income wages earned for services by aliens illegally performed in the United States and self-employment income derived from a trade or business illegally conducted in the United States; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 1173. A bill to amend title 1, United States Code, to provide that, for the purpose of determining eligibility for Federal funds, the District of Columbia shall be treated as a State and any political subdivision of a State or unit of local government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 1174. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide that non-Federal revenue generated through certain distance education programs may be counted purposes of the non-Federal revenue requirements applicable to proprietary institutions of higher education (commonly known as the "90/10 rule"); to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. MFUME, Mr. FIELDS, and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 1175. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to require the Commissioner of Social Security to carry out a demonstration project relating to disability benefits of blind individuals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMUCKER (for himself, Mr. OWENS, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. VAN ORDEN):

H.R. 1176. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to clarify the clock hour requirements for certain eligible programs under title IV of such Act; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. SMUCKER (for himself, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H.R. 1177. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve and enhance the work opportunity tax credit, to encourage longer-service employment, and to modernize the credit to make it more effective as a hiring incentive for targeted workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. VAN DREW (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. BALDERSO, Mr. CARTER of

Texas, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RULLI, Mr. CLINE, Mr. WITTMAN, Mrs. CHERFILUS, McCORMICK, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 1178. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to add alpha-gal to the definition of "major food allergen"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WHITESIDES:

H.R. 1179. A bill to exclude from gross income certain relief payments to the victims of the Chiquita Canyon elevated temperature landfill event; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HARRIS of Maryland (for himself, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. BIGGS of Arizona, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. CRANE, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. OGLES, Mr. PERRY, and Mr. ROY):

H. Con. Res. 10. Concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2025 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2026 through 2034; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. HOULAHAN):

H. Res. 123. A resolution congratulating the Philadelphia Eagles on their victory in Super Bowl LIX; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. TORRES of New York (for himself, Mr. HERNÁNDEZ, Mr. SOTO, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H. Res. 124. A resolution expressing continued support for the people of Puerto Rico, and urging the Federal Government to expedite the rebuilding of Puerto Rico's electrical grid; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. LAHOOD:

H.R. 1152.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: "The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes . . ."

By Mrs. HARSHBARGER:

H.R. 1153.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I; Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 1154.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 1 and clause 18.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 1155.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri:

H.R. 1156.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 1157.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 1158.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 1159.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 1160.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 1161.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. CRENSHAW:

H.R. 1162.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. FINSTAD:

H.R. 1163.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. GARCIA of California:

H.R. 1164.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GIMENEZ:

H.R. 1165.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution stating that Congress has the authority to "make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by the Constitution".

By Mr. GIMENEZ:

H.R. 1166.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution stating that Congress has the authority to "make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by the Constitution".

By Mr. GIMENEZ:

H.R. 1167.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution stating that Congress has the authority to "make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by the Constitution".

By Mr. GOODEN:

H.R. 1168.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. Thus, Congress has the authority not only to increase taxes, but also, to reduce taxes to promote the general welfare of the United States of America and her citizens. Additionally Congress has the

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas:

H.R. 1169.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi:

H.R. 1170.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 1171.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. MOOLENAAR:

H.R. 1172.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8: "The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;"

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 1173.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 1174.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. SESSIONS:

H.R. 1175.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 (Commerce Clause)

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 1176.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of section 8 article 1 of the Constitution

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 1177.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause I of section 8 article I of the Constitution

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 1178.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. WHITESIDES:

H.R. 1179.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, United States Constitution

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS TO PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 32: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina.

H.R. 34: Mr. NEHLS, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. CRANE.

H.R. 35: Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona, Mr. GILL of Texas, and Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas.

H.R. 38: Mr. WIED.

H.R. 51: Ms. RANDALL.

H.R. 77: Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. HARIDOPOLOS, Mr. McCORMICK, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas, and Mr. SCHMIDT.

H.R. 162: Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 174: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 211: Mrs. SYKES.
 H.R. 221: Mr. CRANE and Mr. HARIDOPOLOS.
 H.R. 222: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
 H.R. 224: Mr. BEGICH.
 H.R. 247: Ms. WATERS, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. GARCIA of California, and Mrs. McIVER.
 H.R. 250: Mr. DELUZIO and Mr. MACKENZIE.
 H.R. 274: Mr. ONDER.
 H.R. 309: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
 H.R. 330: Mr. MULLIN.
 H.R. 335: Mr. HARIDOPOLOS.
 H.R. 349: Mr. PAPPAS.
 H.R. 377: Mr. ROSE.
 H.R. 407: Ms. MCBRIDE, Mr. LICCARDO, Ms. RANDALL, and Mrs. FLETCHER.
 H.R. 424: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.
 H.R. 425: Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mrs. HINSON.
 H.R. 433: Ms. CLARKE of New York and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
 H.R. 444: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
 H.R. 447: Ms. RANDALL.
 H.R. 465: Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. ROSE.
 H.R. 478: Mr. SCHMIDT and Mr. FITZGERALD.
 H.R. 484: Mr. MFUME.
 H.R. 485: Mr. FIGURES and Mr. MFUME.
 H.R. 486: Mr. MFUME.
 H.R. 491: Mr. IVEY, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mrs. SYKES, and Mr. NORCROSS.
 H.R. 492: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEXTER, and Ms. WATERS.
 H.R. 493: Mr. IVEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. RANDALL, and Mr. NORCROSS.
 H.R. 516: Mr. OWENS, Mr. VASQUEZ, and Mr. Moulton.
 H.R. 520: Mr. MEUSER.
 H.R. 524: Mr. LAWLER.
 H.R. 539: Mr. HUIZENGA and Mr. FLOOD.
 H.R. 569: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina, Mr. McGuire, and Mr. TAYLOR.
 H.R. 578: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. HUIZENGA, and Mr. LANGWORTHY.
 H.R. 609: Ms. SEWELL.
 H.R. 610: Mr. MFUME and Ms. SEWELL.
 H.R. 617: Mr. NEGUSE and Ms. LEE of Nevada.
 H.R. 630: Ms. LOFGREN.
 H.R. 649: Mrs. HOUCHIN, Ms. BALINT, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. BAUMGARTNER, and Mr. COMER.
 H.R. 654: Mr. HARIDOPOLOS, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. LOUDERMILK.
 H.R. 692: Mrs. BICE.
 H.R. 700: Mr. CRANE.
 H.R. 703: Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas.
 H.R. 735: Mr. HARIDOPOLOS.
 H.R. 738: Mr. FIGURES.
 H.R. 740: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.

H.R. 756: Mr. BRECHEEN and Mr. FRY.
 H.R. 768: Mr. MFUME and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
 H.R. 783: Mr. MURPHY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BALDORSON, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.
 H.R. 801: Ms. SCHOLTEN and Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
 H.R. 802: Mr. SOTO and Mr. BAIRD.
 H.R. 816: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
 H.R. 824: Mr. DONALDS.
 H.R. 833: Mr. HARIDOPOLOS.
 H.R. 846: Mr. CISNEROS.
 H.R. 877: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
 H.R. 879: Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. BACON, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. HOYER, and Ms. BROWNLEY.
 H.R. 887: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
 H.R. 897: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. SUOZZI.
 H.R. 898: Mr. LIEU, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. SUOZZI.
 H.R. 909: Mr. BACON, Mr. EVANS of Colorado, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. VALADAO.
 H.R. 916: Mr. MFUME.
 H.R. 934: Mrs. BIGGS of South Carolina.
 H.R. 943: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina.
 H.R. 944: Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. DEXTER, and Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 945: Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Ms. CHU, and Mr. NEGUSE.
 H.R. 961: Ms. BOEBERT.
 H.R. 964: Ms. UNDERWOOD.
 H.R. 965: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. CHU, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. PEREZ, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MAST, Mr. FROST, Mr. LAWLER, and Ms. FRIEDMAN.
 H.R. 975: Mr. COSTA, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. LUCAS.
 H.R. 976: Mr. PALMER, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
 H.R. 987: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. BUCHANAN, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. ESTES, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. FINSTAD, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. STRONG, Mr. SELF, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. GRAVES, and Mr. DESJARLAIS.
 H.R. 989: Ms. WATERS, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CARSON, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. POCAN, Mr. McGOVERN, and Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE.
 H.R. 1002: Mr. POCAN.
 H.R. 1004: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 1008: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
 H.R. 1009: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
 H.R. 1020: Mr. NEGUSE.
 H.R. 1028: Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
 H.R. 1029: Mr. WIED and Ms. HAGEMAN.
 H.R. 1035: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 1039: Mr. MURPHY.
 H.R. 1041: Mr. BARRETT and Mr. LANGWORTHY.
 H.R. 1042: Mr. PETERS.
 H.R. 1046: Mr. LIEU, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. FLOOD, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
 H.R. 1048: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
 H.R. 1052: Mr. SELF.
 H.R. 1057: Mr. CALVERT and Mr. WEBER of Texas.
 H.R. 1061: Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. MFUME, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
 H.R. 1063: Mr. STAUBER.
 H.R. 1066: Mr. SELF.
 H.R. 1078: Mr. YAKYM and Mr. FLOOD.
 H.R. 1079: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina.
 H.R. 1086: Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
 H.R. 1099: Mr. RYAN, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. FOUSHÉE, Ms. WATERS, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. FRIEDMAN, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
 H.R. 1101: Mr. RYAN, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. BEYER, Ms. WATERS, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. MFUME, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. CONAWAY.
 H.R. 1106: Ms. FRIEDMAN, Mr. GARCIA of California, and Ms. CRAIG.
 H.R. 1116: Mr. SELF, Mr. GILL of Texas, and Mr. TIMMONS.
 H.R. 1120: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
 H.R. 1123: Mr. GRAVES, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mrs. SPARTZ, and Mr. VAN DREW.
 H.R. 1131: Mr. ROSE.
 H.R. 1139: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
 H.R. 1147: Ms. BROWNLEY.
 H.J. Res. 20: Mr. JACK and Mr. GILL of Texas.
 H.J. Res. 28: Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. CRANE, and Mr. SHREVE.
 H. Res. 16: Mr. MFUME.
 H. Res. 33: Mr. MFUME.
 H. Res. 52: Mr. MAGAZINER.
 H. Res. 60: Ms. CHU.
 H. Res. 69: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
 H. Res. 70: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. CHERILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. MFUME, Ms. WATERS, Ms. RANDALL, and Mrs. BEATTY.
 H. Res. 94: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN and Mr. TURNER of Texas.
 H. Res. 115: Mr. MOYLAN.
 H. Res. 116: Ms. WATERS, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, and Ms. MORRISON.
 H. Res. 120: Mr. VAN DREW.